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Labor celebration ends in uproar

With Labor chairman Ehud Barak looking on, MK Adisu Massala angrily berates the party yesterday, after failing to win the immigrant's spot on its Knesset list. (Ilan Ossendryver/Israel Sun)

Massala accuses party of racism

By DANNA HARMAN

A dramatic outburst by Ethiopian MK Adisu Massala, accusing the Labor Party of racism, just as the final results of its primaries were being announced in Tel Aviv last night, spoiled what party leader Ehud Barak had hoped would be a unity fest.

"You are racists!" he shouted. "It cannot be that the head of a party who wants to be the prime minister, will abandon in such a racist way the Jews of Ethiopia."

Labor's lineup, Page 3

Barak, who has worked hard to muster party support from minorities, said he would order a recount of the vote.

The commotion began after Massala, who originally was said to have captured the new immigrants seat (No. 19) was found to have received fewer votes than Russian Sofa Landver at the end of the day.

Massala said last night that he will petition the High Court of Justice. Colette Avital is also considering appealing the final placements.

After the results were announced, Massala got up on stage and made an impassioned speech, blaming the party and Barak for turning him into a "political victim" for Landver's sake.

"I am a member of this party and wanted Ehud Barak to be the next prime minister," Massala said. "But I am very disappointed. I was made the political victim, thrown out for Sofa Landver, for Sofa Landver.

"I am going to create a public uproar... This is a thing that should never happen... I personally will not forgive the Labor Party and the chairman," said Massala.

"A few months ago Barak went to ask forgiveness from the Sephardim. Next thing, he is going to have to ask the Ethiopians for forgiveness."

Arab representatives were also squeezed out in the primaries. Nadia Hilu, who also failed to gain a realistic spot, took her cue from Massala and took the stage after him, calling the voting system "a joke," which discriminates against both women and Arabs.

And, because of the way the system is set up, Massala's loss may have also put another person in danger of losing a spot.

See LABOR, Page 2

What could have been done to avoid this mess?

ANALYSIS
By DANNA HARMAN

The Labor Party primary celebration in the Tel Aviv Fairgrounds went awry last night, with two of the evening's losers – Adisu Massala and Nadia Hilu – getting up on the stage and loudly berating the party and its chairman, as onlookers cheered and booed chaotically.

The blue-and-white balloons dropped from the nets right on cue, and the catchy music had everyone from Colette Avital to Matan Vilna'i tapping their toes – but nothing could redeem the moment.

Party supporters looked embarrassed and shook their heads. Shimon Peres and Avraham Burg tried throwing the balloons back at the crowd to divert attention, and Sofa Landver, who was the butt of all the criticism, looked down unhappily at her bouquet of flowers.

After it was all over and the crowds filtered out of the hall and into surrounding parking lots, the general buzz was that both the decision to let Massala and Hilu vent, and the way in which the two attacked their party, were uncalled for – and completely wrecked what should have been a successful evening of unity.

There was also another, more serious criticism which was sounded over and again as the party members started up their cars: Had Landver won fair and square or had someone in the party played with the tally to ensure that a Russian candidate was given a realistic spot?

This question bears looking into. Massala said he is bringing in his lawyers to investigate immediately. Avital, who was pushed down to the 25th spot because of Landver's showing, said she is also considering asking for an investigation. She may well be joined by Yuli Tamir, another woman newcomer who was also shoved aside.

Landver, her lipstick slightly smudged and her eyes just a tad red, said she could not imagine there had been foul play. "They should never have released the non-final votes," she said, fumbling for her car keys. "It really hurt me to hear all the booing."

Even if it turns out Landver won by the book, the evening will always be remembered for the tirades on stage. What could have been done to avoid this mess?

Party chairman Ehud Barak tried to give the story a positive spin and pointed out how democratic Labor was for letting the two malcontents take the mike.

Perhaps there is something to that. If he had prevented the two – who jumped up on the stage and stood directly beside him – from speaking, there would have been a different kind of uproar. If the music had been turned up and the meeting pronounced closed with Massala and Hilu fuming center stage, there would have been complaints about lack of freedom of expression and lack of tolerance.

It was a shame and an embarrassment, but the real question is what it will do to the party in the longer run. And, most importantly, how Barak will go forth with his presentation of his party "for all the people" with his minority candidates saying they feel left out.

Turks hold Ocalan, Kurds protest across Europe

By DANNA HARMAN and news agencies

Turkey caught up with Kurdish rebel leader Abdullah Ocalan and triumphantly brought him home to stand trial yesterday after he was spirited out of Kenya in shadowy circumstances.

The capture set off violent Kurdish protests across Europe. Diplomatic missions in more than 20 European cities were occupied and a Kurd rebel prisoner in Turkey died after setting himself alight.

Another inmate of a Turkish jail, in the southeastern regional capital Diyarbakir, was badly injured in a similar suicide bid, as were protesters in Stuttgart, London and Copenhagen.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu denied a report that the Mossad helped Turkey track Ocalan.

The German news agency, DPA, quoted a Western intelligence source as saying the Mossad played a key role in tracking Ocalan, whose whereabouts were unknown after he left Rome in January.

In response, Netanyahu told reporters: "Contrary to news reports, Israel had absolutely nothing to do with the Ocalan affair or his return to Turkey, nothing whatsoever."

Earlier in the day, Netanyahu's spokesman Aviv Bushinsky said that after a thorough investigation, it was "completely clear" that Israel was in no way involved with Ocalan's capture.

"Israel categorically denies various media reports that it was involved in passing on information which led to the capture of Ocalan," Bushinsky said in a statement.

The Foreign Ministry also denied involvement.

Kurdish demonstrations were directed largely against Greece, which secretly sheltered Ocalan in its Nairobi mission before he fell into Turkey's hands, apparently by some sort of trick.

See KURDS, Page 2

Danny Katz murder case reopened

By HEIDI J. GLEIT and ilm

The five men imprisoned for murdering Danny Katz in December 1983 should be retried, the Supreme Court ruled yesterday.

The men, whom Haifa District Court sentenced to life imprisonment plus 27 years for abducting, murdering, and sexually assaulting the 14-year-old Haifa boy, are to remain in prison throughout the retrial, court President Aharon Barak decided.

Tel Aviv District Court will retry Ahmed Kuzli, Ali Janim, Atas Sabihi, Samir Janama, and Sathi Janama, who are from Sakhnin and the Haifa area. They confessed to police interrogators, but claimed in court that their confessions were forced.

"If you look at the chronology of the investigation, the story changes... in a way that can only be explained by physical force and coercion that was inflicted by police investigators," said Smadar Ben-Natan, one of the their lawyers. "The confession was forced."

After a series of appeals, their lawyer Avigdor Feldman asked for a retrial in September 1992 because, among other reasons, their original lawyer had not had access to the conclusions of a General Security Service investigation against them.

See KATZ, Page 2

Police probe Sharon, Ben-Gal, for 'obstruction of justice'

By Jerusalem Post Staff

Police are investigating suspicions that Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon and Maj.-Gen. (res.) Avigdor Ben-Gal may have collaborated to obstruct justice. The move follows a change in Ben-Gal's evidence concerning Sharon's role in the Lebanon war, which played a crucial part in Sharon's libel case against *Ha'aretz*.

Ben-Gal was questioned under caution yesterday, and Sharon has been summoned for questioning later – also under caution – concerning suspicion of breach of trust, obstruction of justice, and a serious violation of correct management procedures.

The case involves the possibility of a connection between Ben-Gal's activity as a private businessman and his altered testimony in the libel case.

See SHARON, Page 2

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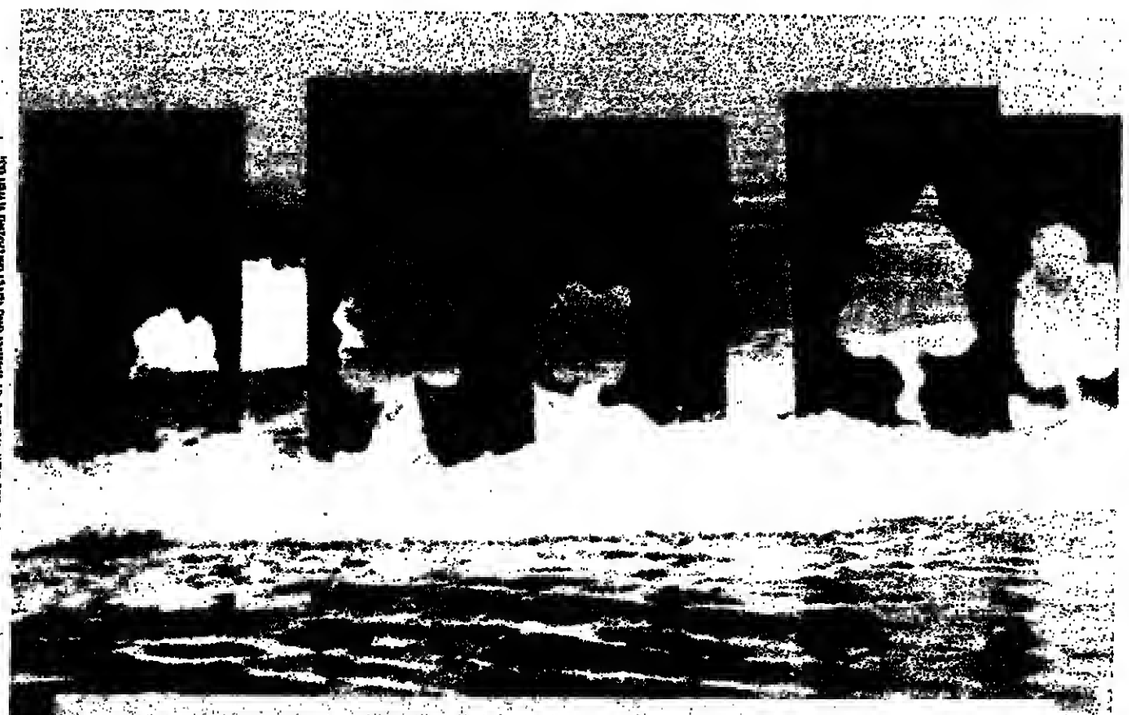

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NEWS
in brief

PM: Israel, Dutch should put crash behind them

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu called a 1992 crash of an El Al cargo plane into an Amsterdam apartment block "an unfortunate case," and said yesterday he hoped the two countries could put the incident behind them. Netanyahu's comments came a day after Israeli officials were quoted as saying relations between the two sides had seriously deteriorated as a result of a Dutch inquiry into the plane's cargo.

"What we are dealing here with is an isolated case, an unfortunate case with our national airline and it was a great tragedy for all concerned," said Netanyahu. *AP*

Jordan opens borders to Palestinian media

Jordan has agreed to allow Palestinian newspapers and magazines to go on sale in the kingdom for the first time since the 1967 Arab-Israeli War, Iyad Qattan, director-general of the Jordanian Press and Publications Department, said yesterday.

Jordan will also broadcast a 30 to 60-minute program produced by the Palestine Television Corp. once a month, Qattan said.

Qattan said the Palestinian media would have to respect the Jordanian Press and Publication Law, which prohibits criticism of the Jordanian royal family and anything deemed to infringe national and economic security. *AP*

Karp re-elected for UN committee

Deputy Attorney-General Judith Karp has been re-elected to represent Israel on the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Israeli Mission to the UN said yesterday.

"This is a victory for Israel after the difficult time we had last week in the special emergency session," said UN Ambassador Dore Gold. He was referring to the UN General Assembly's condemnation of Israel for settlement activity and the assembly's call for a Geneva Convention conference to consider Israeli treatment of the Palestinian civilian population.

Karp's re-election had not been assured given the large field of candidates running for the coveted committee slots. *Marilyn Henry*

Turkey's Kurdish war rattles Europe's capitals

ANALYSIS

By THOMAS O'DWYER

A Kurd is arrested by police during yesterday's protests in front of the Greek consulate in Frankfurt. (AP)

Turkey may be celebrating the capture of Abdullah Ocalan as if all its troubles with the Kurdish rebellion are over, but in reality they are only beginning. This is no longer a Turkish-Kurdish problem, it is a European one.

The wave of jubilation in Turkey and the storm of protests across Europe are irrefutable evidence of the uncompromising extent to which the PKK leader is reviled by his enemies and worshipped by his followers.

But yesterday's events awakened startled Europeans mainly to the fact that, in addition to huge waves of other problematic immigrants, there are some three quarters of a million vocal Kurds living in their midst. The responsibility for this particular angry diaspora sits squarely at Turkey's feet.

In this most vicious of wars of ethnic repression there is no trace of the spirit of compromise that has entered some other intractable problems.

If Turkey, not without justification, considers Ocalan to be one of the world's worst terrorists, the Kurds, with equal justification, experience Turkey as one of the most uncompromisingly brutal semi-democracies in the world.

Ankara consistently holds Ocalan responsible for every single one of the estimated 30,000 deaths in the Kurdish rebel war, and refers to him as "the baby killer." The Kurds consider the Turkish army genocidal and call it a nation killer. "War is war," Ocalan said in an interview last month, "and this war is the dirtiest and cruelest in the world." Ocalan may have to face the death penalty for his part in the dirty war, and may do so willingly. But it is Turkey that will come under the microscope for how events are managed from now on. As Ankara's vicious row with Italy over its refusal to extradite Ocalan proved, European patience with having another ethnic war spill into its cities is wearing very thin indeed.

Yesterday's protests can only raise fears of worse to come if Turkey's handling of Ocalan and his legal rights are not impeccable.

Even after discounting Turkey's hysterical anti-Kurdish propaganda, Ocalan is still not a man much admired outside his revolutionary world and its tired Marxist-Leninist rhetoric. The PKK he founded in 1974 as an extreme nationalist splinter earned a reputation for particular ruthlessness by killing members of rival groups, Kurdish landlords, and simple tribesmen regarded as pro-government. If PKK resembled any other nationalist guerrilla group in its aspirations and tactics, it would be the Khmer Rouge.

Nonetheless, three times Ocalan has offered Ankara a cease-fire, offers which were not even considered. Last year, saying he wanted to follow the example of others who had decided to test the path of peace (the PLO, the IRA, and Spain's ETA) he tried again. Not even responding, Ankara launched a major offensive in which more than 50 Kurdish rebels were killed.

In reality, no civilian Ankara government has much of a say in whether a peace process should be tried, since the army calls the shots in the war against Kurdish aspirations for autonomy.

Turkey's generals are not a breed given to discussing compromise.

But with Ocalan in a Turkish jail, European governments are almost certain to press Turkey to balance its triumphalism with a measure of generosity and to set up a peace process with the Kurds. How successful they will be depends on whether Ankara still aspires to be a European nation and is willing to behave like one.

LABOR
Continued from Page 1

Colette Avital, who came in third among the women candidates – after Dalia Itzik and Yael Dayan – was to have been given the 20th seat on the list, which is reserved for a woman. However, now Avital will be pushed down to the next reserved women's seat (No. 25), as Landver will fill out the quota for women in the top 20.

This, in turn, pushes Yuli Tamir, who thought that seat was hers, into the completely unrealistic 30th position.

It is a generally accepted fact that Barak was eager for Landver to get the immigrant's spot, as he would have had trouble garnering Russian support with no Russian candidate on the list.

Svetlana Alexandrova, who was also running for the new immigrant's space, had a different complaint, arguing that Landver, who has been in Israel for over 20 years, should not even be eligible for the new immigrant's seat. "But we should not have any booing here," she said. "This has got to be a united party in order to win."

Now that the primaries are officially over, the Labor line-up is set in stone. Or is it? Labor party members, fresh from the internal election battlefield, revved up yesterday for their next fight.

Not the one against the Likud party, but the one against Barak.

The issue at hand is reserved spots. Reportedly Barak intends to change the elected line-up by bringing in candidates from other parties so as to increase the party's ability to attract voters.

Under his concept of One Israel, Barak is expected to place Gesher head David Levy high on the list, along with Shlomo Lahiani, a little-known figure who recently lost the mayoral race in Bat Yam, and who is, like Levy, Sephardi. There is also talk of a representative of Meimad being brought in.

Barak has not denied that he might bring in fresh faces, but he has promised that everything would be done in consultation with the party. "We have held the most democratic of exercises and we have come up with a very high quality list, a list that will win," he said. "And when I give in the One Israel list, we will see that what we are talking about here is the true Zionist party. All of Israel together."

Party members of all stripes however, could be heard grumbling yesterday about the situation. Avi Yehezkel called the plan "unfair," and Yehuda Alush, a party activist from Beersheba, said Barak should stop trying to pretend Labor is "a party for the Sephardim." If he has to bring in outside people, he said, "and can't raise his won Sephardim within – as seems to be the case – then we are in big trouble."

Ben-Ami, the big winner and a Sephardi, said that while he favors including Levy, a Meimad member and, perhaps Amir Peretz of the Workers' Party as well, the process has to be done with a lot of thought. "It is clear Labor on its own will not be able to capture the votes of those groups, which do not historically support the party," he said, "so we may want to bring in well-selected others."

Itzik, the other Sephardi in the top 10, said it is a shame that so few women had made the list.

Turkish Embassy guarded after Kurdish protests

By DANNA HARMAN

Turkish Ambassador to Israel Barlas Ozener said yesterday that security precautions were being taken at the Turkish Embassy in Tel Aviv in the wake of attacks on Greek and Turkish embassies abroad.

"All Turkish representatives abroad have been asked to take precautions," said Ozener, who would not give any further details. The ambassador did say however that "from time to time we have received threats."

Ozener said he had not been in touch with his Greek counterpart Lotiris Varouxakis as of yet. "If I am told to thank the Greeks for their help I will do so," said Ozener, "but I have not been told to do so."

Ozener said that statements from Turkey regarding the Ochalan capture were still being formulated, and that it was unclear what part Greece had played in events.

If reports that the Greek embassy in Nairobi had sheltered Ochalan were true, added Ozener, "this was a very grave mistake on their part. Embassies do not do this."

Varouxakis, in turn, would not comment on the situation, and his office would not say whether security measures at the embassy had been increased.

Sources say however that the ambassador has asked Israel to help with security measures at the embassy.

Kurd rebel Ocalan inspires loyalty, hate

BACKGROUND

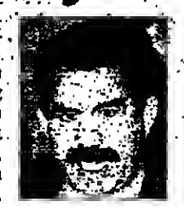
By ALISTAIR BELL

ANKARA (Reuters) – Kurdish rebel leader Abdullah Ocalan inspires a fierce loyalty among Kurdish nationalists matched only by the hatred in which he is held in most of Turkey.

Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit, his voice quaking with emotion, told a news conference Ocalan had been brought to Turkey, where he faces the death penalty for crimes against the state in the 14-year-old separatist campaign he started and ran.

Earlier, Kurdish protesters from Moscow to London had invaded Greek missions, believing Athens responsible for allowing the portly guerrilla leader to be lured out of sanctuary at the Greek embassy in Nairobi.

"The Greek and Kenyan governments are playing with the fate of a nation and a people...They must tell us where our leader is, what they have done with him," Semsi Kilic, spokesman for Ocalan's Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK), told the Kurdish MED TV channel. More than 29,000 people have died in the ruthless separatist campaign Ocalan has directed in Turkey's southeast for 14 years.



Abdullah Ocalan (AP)

Ankara holds him personally responsible for all those deaths and his capture represents a massive victory for Turkey, where he is reviled.

Since 1980 Ocalan had been on the run. "Wherever he goes in the world, we will pursue him...Those who befriend him are the partners of a baby-killer," Turkish President Suleyman Demirel said.

"You must believe before everything else that the revolution must come," Ocalan said in a televised address to Kurdish youth in August last year.

He was driven from Syrian exile in October after Ankara threatened Damascus with force if it did not wind up bases it said the PKK were using to launch raids in Turkey's southeast. Around 5,000 people were killed in street fighting between left and right that ended when the army staged a coup in 1980. He gradually dropped demands for independence and said he could end the conflict if Turkey granted Kurdish autonomy or cultural and linguistic rights.

KATZ
Continued from Page 1

"There is new evidence that the GSS questioned [the five] and conclusions were that they weren't connected to any terrorist organization and that their motive was not terror or security related," Ben-Natan said. "They [the GSS investigators] also thought, although this wasn't their subject of inquiry, that [the five] weren't guilty of the murder. This was hidden from the defense when the trial was going on.

"The confession [to police] included confessions to terrorism and the investigation of the GSS casts doubt on this.

"Another issue is: Was their legal representation good enough? It probably wasn't the best they could get," she said. "The court was very impatient with the defense lawyers, who weren't experienced criminal lawyers. They were appointed by the state and they took the case only a few weeks before it started, and they didn't have enough time to prepare and they made several critical mistakes."

Sathi Janama, who was at home in Sakhnin yesterday on a prison furlough, was surprised but happy to hear of the decision.

"I am very happy," he told Army Radio. He thanked "all the people who reached out and helped us... just as they knew in their hearts we are innocent and didn't do anything.

"We are sitting and suffering in jail for nothing. They broke us – they ruined our lives."

KURDS
Continued from Page 1

Washington denied any "direct involvement" in Ocalan's arrest, while Greek Prime Minister Costas Simitis was expected to come under withering attack from his critics for allowing Ocalan to be delivered to Turkey.

Greece recalled its ambassador from Kenya over the incident.

Kenya, six months after a bomb killed 229 people outside the US Embassy, distanced itself from Ocalan's capture, fearing once again it could suffer at the hands of foreign radicals.

Turkey regards Ocalan as a traitor and terrorist who could in principle face the death penalty. His separatist followers have been fighting for 14 years in a conflict estimated to have cost 29,000 lives.

Ocalan supporters swiftly seized hostages at Greek missions in the Netherlands, Switzerland and Germany.

Meanwhile, Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit, his voice shaking with emotion, announced: "The head of the separatist organization has been in Turkey since three o'clock this morning.

"He will account for his actions in front of the Turkish justice system," added Ecevit, who declined to give details of how Ocalan, "Apo" to Turkey's eight million Kurds, was captured.

Turkey still has capital punishment on its statute books, the reason it failed last year to persuade Italy to extradite Ocalan, long its most wanted fugitive. But it has not executed anyone since 1984.

Turkish newspapers printed special afternoon editions.

"Victory," the Hurriyet paper roared in a banner headline.

Greek Foreign Minister Theodoros Pangalos, speaking in Athens, filled in some details of the secret odyssey of Ocalan, who was bounced from country to country for months, with Ankara applying heavy diplomatic pressure everywhere he sought refuge.

Greece, often at odds with Turkey, inherited the Ocalan hot potato this month after he was denied refuge by or forced out of Lebanon, Syria, Russia, Italy Germany, the Netherlands and other places.

After he was turned away at airports around Europe on February 1, his plane refueled on the Greek island of Corfu and flew to Kenya, where Pangalos said he hid in a Greek Embassy building.

Pangalos said Ocalan left the embassy on Monday of his own accord, expecting to fly to the Netherlands.

"He chose, despite our advice, to go with the Kenyan authorities to the airport."

Kenyan Foreign Minister Bonaya Godana said his government played no part in the capture. He had demanded the recall of the Greek ambassador, saying he could no longer be trusted.

"We did not have the slightest suspicion," Godana said. "There is no way we would have approved such a move."

He said Greek Ambassador George Costorlas had flown Ocalan and a group of followers into Kenya on a private plane on February 2 without clearing them with Kenyan authorities.

The White House denied that the US had any "direct involvement" in the affair.

"We're obviously very pleased with the apprehension of this terrorist leader," spokesman Joe Lockhart said. "We have consistently urged all governments to help bring this person to justice consistent with international law."

Ocalan's lawyers said he had either been tricked or forced out of the Greek Embassy in Nairobi.

"According to my information, my client was yesterday, based on a misrepresentation of the situation by the Kenyan authorities, effectively dragged out of the Greek Embassy," lawyer Eberhard Schultz told German television.

Ocalan's movement, the Kurdistan Worker's Party or PKK, vowed that its armed struggle would continue.

SHARON
Continued from Page 1

The affair began last July, after the state attorney ordered an investigation following a complaint by *Ha'aretz* newspaper.

Police were told that Ben-Gal joined an official visit to Russia by Sharon on June 3, 1997, when Sharon was only national infrastructure minister. Ben-Gal's presumed incentive was to win a concession for the import of Russian natural gas, possibly in return for changing his evidence in the libel case. This involved charges that Sharon deceived prime minister Menachem Begin concerning the IDF's strategy in Lebanon.

Ben-Gal's evidence as a witness on behalf of Ha'aretz was to have been presented in court two weeks after the trip to Russia. The police have noted that in court on June 22, 1997, Ben-Gal contradicted statements he made in a lecture at Tel Aviv University the previous year.

At that time, he said that one of the problems of the Lebanon war was the "unauthorized secret plan" of Sharon, who was then defense minister, and his attempt "to bring the government in stages to authorize it."

However, in court, he backtracked and said that his assertion in the lecture was "nonsense and I made a bitter mistake."

In court, he said he had no contact with Sharon in 1997, neglecting to mention his trip to Russia with Sharon two weeks earlier.

Asked when he changed his opinion, Ben-Gal said in 1996-97. Later the same day, interviewed on Channel 1's New Evening program, he said he had changed his mind over five years.

Ha'aretz asked Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein to investigate why a private businessman was involved in Sharon's affairs of state in Russia and why he had given two different accounts of his conversion on the same day.

"This affair will end by showing it is a low-down, unprecedented blood libel," said Ya'acov Weinroth, Sharon's lawyer. "It is a clear attempt to stab and liquidate a man, but that will not happen. Can anybody believe a general, a hero of Israel would perjure himself for the sake of a trip abroad?"

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Rotary Club will go on an excursion tomorrow, Thursday, to the Paul Harris Forest in Safed for a Rotary tree-planting ceremony. Bus leaves from YMCA at 9:30 a.m. sharp.

The management and staff of
The Jerusalem Post
send their condolences to
DEREK FATTAL
on the passing of his
FATHER

With deep sorrow we announce the passing of our father and grandfather
JACK FATTAL
The funeral will be held today, Wednesday, February 17, 1999, at 5 p.m. at the Etz Hahaim Cemetery.
Shiva will be held in London.
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Ben-Ami revels in No. 1 ranking

By LIAT COLLINS

The morning after the night before, the big winner of the Labor Party's primaries – MK Shlomo Ben-Ami – spent some time with his family and much time being interviewed by the media on his success.

Shlomo Ben-Ami (AP)

Ben-Ami was voted into the top spot out of the 45 candidates competing on the national list.

It was a tremendous achievement for Ben-Ami, who only entered the Knesset three years ago at the very bottom of the Labor list in the 34th slot. He is now preceded on the list only by party leader Ehud Barak and Shimon Peres, who was given the second slot as a mark of respect.

However, it is possible that Barak will try to bring MK David Levy in on a reserved place above Ben-Ami.

Although at first sight it seemed that Ben-Ami received 100 percent of the votes, the actual figure was slightly lower and stems from the bonus points awarded those who were chosen as top five candidates.

"I feel truly thankful to many friends who supported me. I have a feeling of responsibility," Ben-Ami said. "What we have here is a good and varied leadership which was chosen democratically, and I hope that the Israeli public – and not just the party members – will also place its faith in it."

Asked if he would be asking for a particular position in Labor given his success, he replied, "I think I have some influence, along with other members, on quite a lot of what Barak is trying to do. I am sure it will happen even without my asking."

Unlike many party members, lower down on the list, Ben-Ami supports the idea of the reserved seats for outsiders in the framework of Barak's One Israel movement.

"I definitely support the idea of One Israel," he said. "I think it's clear to everyone that on its own the Labor Party won't be able to break through to those publics which traditionally it has had a problem reaching. I would see it as a positive thing if we are supported by Meimad from among the religious public, which knows and lives the combination of religion and democracy and in its political stands can join in with the move for peace – unlike the National Religious Party, which is unfortunately largely responsible for the fact that we are at a diplomatic stalemate. The same is also true of David Levy."

Asked why the party needs Levy when there are Sephardim at the top of the list, or why he would need Meimad when Avraham Burg is in the top, he said, "It will reinforce it. Burg is an integral part of the Labor Party, not Meimad. And David Levy is meant to represent a certain niche – he symbolizes the disappearance of the Likud's social soul.

"I would also like to see Amir Peretz among us. I'm very sorry he started up with his Workers Party. I think if there is a place in One Israel for a representative of a broad working population, it's Amir Peretz. I would call on him and on Barak to do everything to make Peretz part of One Israel."

Speaking before it became clear that Sofa Landver had beaten Adisu Massala for the immigrant slot, Ben-Ami said he was not too concerned by the fact that no representative of the immigrants from the former Soviet Union was elected.

PM's guards knock man out

By Jerusalem Post Staff

A Likud supporter named Yehuda Martsiano was struck to the ground unconscious by Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's bodyguards, who mistakenly thought he was going to attack Netanyahu during an election campaign speech in Or Yehuda yesterday.

He was said to be in good condition after being taken to the hospital.

Witnesses said Martsiano, who had come to hear Netanyahu speak in a theater at the development town's cultural center, lay motionless on his back for several minutes as angry Netanyahu supporters shouted and shook their fists at the large detail of security guards.

Witnesses said Martsiano had just extended his hand in Netanyahu's direction after the premier spoke to a friendly crowd.

Israel Radio said a security guard saw the man holding a rolled-up paper and suspected it was concealing a knife.

According to one witness, Martsiano was knocked to the ground by one of the security men, and other bodyguards then kicked and beat him.

The witness, Shimon Levy, told Itim that a bodyguard hit Martsiano in the face for no apparent reason, and then other security men joined in, beating him while he was lying on the ground. Martsiano lost consciousness and was taken by Magen David Adom to the hospital.

Once Netanyahu had realized what had happened, he crouched down to inquire about the man's condition and see if he could help.

"At the end of Netanyahu's speech, he came forward to the end of the stage and shook hands with supporters," said another witness. "People surged forward to the stage to shake hands with Netanyahu. Something must have happened, and the next thing I knew this guy was lying on the ground. I don't know how he got hit. There was apparently a scuffle with the security guards."

Netanyahu later told reporters that there had been a misunderstanding, and he intended to invite Martsiano to his office as soon as he recovered.

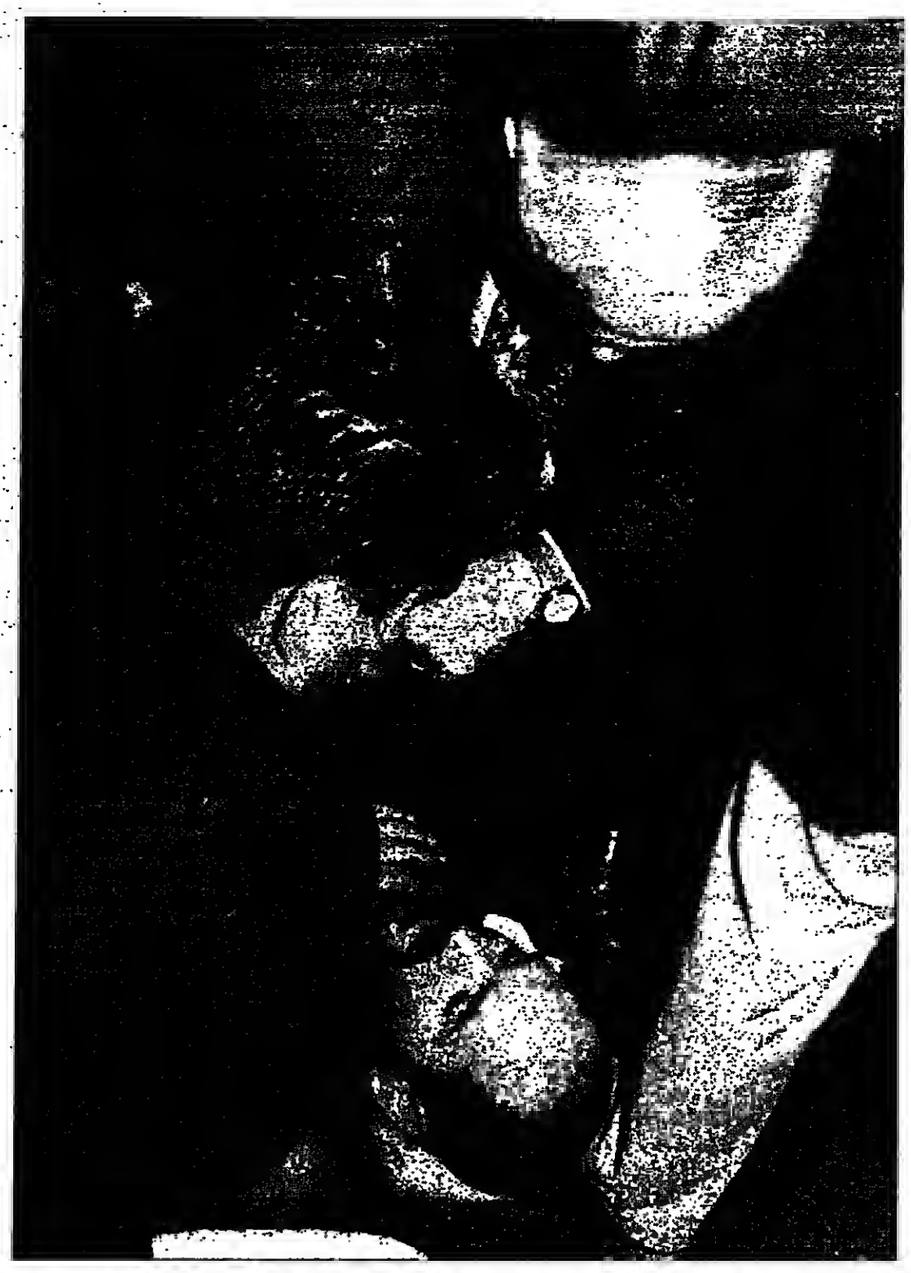
"At the end of my comments, people wanted to shake my hand. I went toward them and then something happened that for a moment wasn't clear, and the guards asked me to leave the area," Netanyahu said. "Afterward, it became clear that there was a case of mistaken identity. I asked to see the man, but he was unconscious and I understood that he was being treated and taken away. I hope it won't happen again."

Martsiano is listed in the Or Yehoda telephone book, but was not available for comment last night.

Netanyahu and his wife, Sara, arrived in Or Yehuda, near Tel Aviv, yesterday afternoon as guests of Mayor Yitzhak Bochovza.

They took part in a cornerstone-laying ceremony for a business center named after Netanyahu's late brother, Yonatan, who was killed in the Entebbe raid.

The incident took place at the end of the prime minister's last scheduled event in the town – a speech to supporters at the cultural center. He was well received by hundreds of local residents, who filled the hall and cheered him during his speech.



Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu inspects the condition of supporter Yehuda Martsiano, who was injured during a scuffle with his bodyguards in Or Yehuda yesterday. (Reuters)

ELECTIONS

notebook

Stern, Nudelman resign from Yisrael Ba'aliya

MKs Yuri Stern and Michael Nudelman officially announced their resignation from Yisrael Ba'aliya yesterday, submitting a letter to the Knesset House Committee to this effect.

In a statement to the press, the two said that "because the party has stopped serving its voters – the immigrant public – MKs Yuri Stern and Michael Nudelman saw no point in staying in it, and announced their resignation in the hope that they will be able to serve their voters in a new framework." In a letter to party leader Natan Sharansky, the two accused him of using the party for the personal ambitions of himself and those around him. *Aryeh Dean Cohen*

Tsomet MK Moshe Peled bolts for Moledet

Tsomet MK Moshe Peled yesterday announced he was leaving the party and joining Moledet, because Tsomet no longer supports the idea of Greater Israel and is sliding leftwards. He also criticized Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan for joining the secular counter-demonstration in the company of Meretz supporters against haredim on Sunday. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Metuna says road safety should be issue

Metuna, the organization for road safety, said yesterday that it is disappointed over the failure of all political leaders to address the issue of road death and injuries, and formulate a coherent program for transportation. "Both the current and previous governments failed miserably, with errors of omission and commission which increased carnage on our roads," Metuna said in a statement. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Netanyahu: Labor list 'leftist' ever

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu described the Labor slate chosen in the primary elections Monday night as "the most leftist list in the history of the Labor Party."

Netanyahu said that when the Labor and Likud leadership were weighed against each other on which would best stand up to Yasser Arafat, it was not the Labor leadership that won. He said Labor is not fit to handle the negotiations with the Palestinians and said that Yossi Beilin has already drawn up a plan to divide Jerusalem. "There is no difference, in effect, between Labor and Meretz," he said.

Monday's big winner, Shlomo Ben-Ami, rejected the criticism that the party is too left-leaning and said Netanyahu would have claimed that no matter who had been elected. "My position is very clear: Left is beautiful, whereas Right is about destroying jobs as we saw in the last two years. Left is peace, whereas Right is confrontation. Left is good relations with the US, the Right has destroyed the relations with the US. Left is investing in education whereas the Right has drastically cut budgets in education. So what's the big deal about [the] Right?"

Labor leader Ehud Barak said throughout the modern world, the new Left was the rising force, citing US President Bill Clinton, British Prime Minister Tony Blair and German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder.

"All over Europe, the new Left movement which has been revitalized and gone to the center has won. We have to decide whether we as a country want to be part of the future wave or to be bogged down in the past," Barak said. "We are the real Zionist and real democratic camp and are fighting a group of extremists."

Calling the party "the real peace camp," Beilin said, "Left is right and Right is wrong. I think [Netanyahu's] regime is a very nationalistic rightist regime which brought us to both political and economic disaster."

The "Ben-Ami" of Likud, Science Minister Silvan Shalom, who came in the top slot in the Likud primaries last week, congratulated his Labor counterpart but criticized the list. "What we can see is that the main leaders of the next Labor faction are very strong on the extreme Left of the political map," Shalom said. "On our list, we can see people who are very strong for negotiating with the Palestinians [and] very strong in protecting Israel's needs, interests and security. On the other side, unfortunately, we see the main people willing to give up almost all the territory of Judea and Samaria and willing to compromise on Jerusalem." *J.P. Staff*

Weiss bids Knesset farewell

By DANNA HARMAN

One of the Labor Party MKs who will not be returning to his parliament seat in the 15th Knesset is Professor Shevah Weiss. Weiss, a Holocaust survivor who was born in 1935 in Poland, and immigrated to Israel in 1947, served in the Knesset for 18 years, holding positions in the law, foreign affairs and defense and house committees. He was the deputy speaker of the house in both the 12th and 14th Knesset and speaker of the house in the 13th.

The Haifa resident admitted yesterday that he was disappointed that he had been pushed off the Labor list and that he would miss the Knesset.

MK Shevah Weiss (Ariel Jerozolimski)

"I am tied to the institution, it is part of me," he said, "but that's life." Weiss, who has a BA in international relations, an MA in political science and contemporary Jewish Studies, and a Ph.D. in Philosophy from Hebrew University, as well as a law degree from Tel Aviv University, said he may go back to academia.

"I don't know yet," he said. "I will rest a few days and then move on. I have not decided, although returning to teach at university is an option."

Weiss speaks five languages and has written numerous books. "There is time to figure it all out," he concludes wearily.

"And I imagine I will always remain in public life in some form or another."

ON THE RECORD

I am going to create a public uproar... This is a thing that should never happen. It is impossible for a party that wants to rise to power, with a chairman who wants to be prime minister, to abandon the Jews of Ethiopia. This cannot be... I personally will not forgive the Labor Party and the chairman – Labor's **Adisso Massala**, who lost out in the party race for the immigrant's seat to Russian candidate Sofa Landver

It's the most leftist list in the history of the Labor party – Prime Minister **Binyamin Netanyahu** on the results of the Labor primary elections

Left is beautiful – MK **Shlomo Ben-Ami** countering criticism on the tendency of the new Labor leadership

Left is right and right is wrong – MK **Yossi Beilin** on the same issue

There was no greater Leftist than [Moses]... The most socialist of socialists – **Shimon Peres** responding to Netanyahu's charge

Avital, Tamir drop down

Among the women on the reserved spots towards the bottom of Labor's list are:

• Colette Avital (No. 26), a 34-year Foreign Ministry veteran, who resigned recently after she was suspected of leaking a ministry document. She has the backing of Shimon Peres.

Most recently, Avital, 58, a Jerusalem resident, served as director-geoeral of the ministry's Western European division, and was also consul-general in New York.

• Yuli Tamir, 44, is a professor at Tel Aviv University, where she teaches political theory. She fell to at least 30th position in the slot reserved for the fourth woman. Tamir was one of the founders of Peace Now in 1978, and joined the Labor Party after Yitzhak Rabin's assassination. Her candidacy was backed by Labor Party leader Ehud Barak.

Nina Gilbert

Labor's line-up

Numbers oo left indicate where candidates came in primary voting. Numbers in parentheses show their place on the list after all the reserved spots are filled.

Ehud Barak (1)
Shimon Peres (2)
1. Shlomo Ben-Ami (31
2. Yossi Beilin (4)
3. Matan Vilna'i (5)
4. Avraham Burg (6)
Ra'anan Cohen (secretary-general 7)
5. Uzi Baram (8)
6. Dalia Itzik (9)
7. Binyamin Ben-Eliezer (10)
8. Haim Ramon (11)
9. Elie Goldschmidt (12)
10. Avraham Shohat (13)
Yael Dayan (women 14)
11. Ofir Pines-Paz (15)
12. Ephraim Sneh (161
Nawaf Massalha (Arab 17)
Avi Yehezkel (center region 18)
Sofa Landver (immigrant 191
Sallah Tarif (Druse 20)
Shalom Zimhon (moshavim 21)
Yossi Katz (Haifa region 22)
Shiri Weizman (Negev 23)
Eli Ben-Menahem (neighborhoods 24)
Colette Avital (women 25)
Effi Oshaya (Sharon region 26)
Micha Goldman (Galilee region 27)
Eitan Cabel (Dan region 28)
Orit Noked (kibbutzim 29)
Tzili Reshef (Jerusalem region 30)

The Knesset lists - alike yet unlike

ANALYSIS

By SARAH HONIG

Could it be that both large parties were impelled by the same overriding collective wisdom? At first cursory glance, it is almost as if they set up a joint committee to decide on the identical formula for a Knesset list.

Both emerged from their selection processes with four Sephardim in the top 10 and with four women in potentially safe slots (though the Labor leadership strove hard yesterday to make sure it had absolutely no more than four females in the first 25 slots – that is before the planned co-option of outsiders pushes them even further down the list).

In both parties, the ones who emerged first in the electoral heat were Sephardi (Shlomo Ben-Ami and Silvan Shalom), and in both, troublemakers were put in their places. At the very top, both parties mixed ideological cocktails. In the Likud, relatively dovish Meir Sheetrit is preceded by a trio which had a hard time with the Hebron and Wye agreements. In Labor, relatively hawkish Matan Vilna'i is the odd man out in the most outspokenly dovish cast ever of Labor headliners.

Altogether, both parties produced lists not fully to their leaders' liking, but ones that essentially are assets and with which the leaders can certainly live. Neither Netanyahu nor Barak find themselves surrounded at the top by obedient yes-men, but by those who will be the first to challenge the loser of the prime ministerial bout.

Apart from Vilna'i, who has only been a party member for a month, the others at Labor's top have a history of taking Barak on. Both Ben-Ami and Yossi Beilin ran against him in the 1997 Labor leadership primary (and their status was significantly boosted thereby). Avraham Burg so energetically aided Beilin then that Barak still harbors an intensive and unabating dislike for him, though his relations with Beilin are correct. Uzi Baram had once been Barak's unofficial deputy, but they have since clashed bitterly.

Barak most actively supported Ben-Ami in the primaries, not least because he needed a Sephardi with whom to decorate the top of the list.

Ben-Ami indeed is the sort of Sephardi whom Ashkenzim love to love. He has few enemies, is erudite and personable, all of which catapulted him from Labor's 34th slot in the last list to the very top of the heap this time around. In 1996, he was barely pin on the list at all, and this only after Shimon Peres' strenuous efforts.

In all, Peres held his own quite impressively this time. The candidates he supported did well against the "wish lists" circulated on Barak's behalf. Beilin and Burg are closely tied to Peres and, further down the line, candidates fielded by Barak were frequently beaten by the ones Peres sponsored. Barak knew what he was doing when he reserved the second slot for Peres without competition. Peres is still a potent force in the party, and Barak must avoid tangling with him.

Barak's preferred top 5 included Haim Ramon and Dalia Itzik. Ramon slid below the top 10, a fact which dampens the leadership ambitions he entertained – just like the Likud's Tzahi Hanegbi. Both had visions of landing the top slot in the competition. Hanegbi was punished for deals he cooked up against ministerial rivals; Ramon for his prolonged vacillation on whether to defect to the Center Party and for driving Labor mad with his insistence on a separate vote for five primary contestants with leadership potential, who would get bonus points. Unlike Ben-Ami, he obviously got few of those.

Party veterans also had not forgiven Ramon for his perceived role in destroying the Histadrut and the health system. Ramon knew what was coming and recently dispatched a five-page defense of his Histadrut antics to party members. It did him little good.

Itzik did well and will be placed in the 9th slot, but she did not live up to Barak's expectations. He wanted her to be Labor's answer to the Likud's No.4, Limor Livnat. Itzik did not even climb as high as the Likud's second woman, Naomi Blumenthal, No.7. Itzik made it to her slot (by coincidence also a slot reserved for a woman) on her own, becoming the only Labor female candidate not to be skipped ahead.

Livnat and Blumenthal also got no leg-up and made it to unreserved slots. In Labor, Yael Dayan (a Peres candidate) was skipped to the woman's 14th slot, beating Colette Avital (another Peres favorite). Avital was to make do with the 20th slot, also reserved for women. Dayan and Avital would have then emerged much like the Likud's Tzippi Livni, who was propelled to her party's 17th place.

But things are not that simple in Labor. Because MK Sofa Landver finally got the immigrant's 19th slot, Avital slips to 25th, presumably because Labor cannot countenance two women in consecutive slots. Avital's slide, in turn, edges Prof. Yuli Tamir (though she was hand-picked and enthusiastically supported by Barak) out of a safe slot. Avital is challenging her sudden demotion, but if she does not succeed, she will find herself as Labor's counterpart to the Likud's 24-year-old student, Gila Gamliel, who made it comfortably to the 24th slot without any higher-up's active sponsorship.

The well-connected Avital is one of the very few new faces on the Labor list, which generally contained no surprises. Neither she or Vilna'i are new to public life, just as the Likud's Dan Naveh is not.

Yet the Likud features many more new and much younger candidates, having given a chance to the unknown and unmoneyed. In a system like Labor's, where 100,000 party faithful cast their ballots, one has to be rich or famous or both to win attention, never mind support.

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PA mufti set to defy Israel over office

By BEN LYNFIELD and AMY KLEIN

The Mufti of Jerusalem and the Holy Land, Sheikh Ikrama Sabri, yesterday said he will not budge from a new office in the Dome of the Rock compound despite objections by Israeli officials that his presence there marks a disruption of the status quo on the Temple Mount.

"I will not leave it. We are not accepting the Israeli interpretations. They distort the facts," said Sabri, who was appointed in 1994 by Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat. Israel views the change of offices as a means of consolidating PA influence at the site in advance of final status negotiations on Jerusalem.

But Sabri said it resulted from a heart operation six months ago and that it allows him to avoid climbing stairs to his second floor office.

"I asked the Wakf (ministry of Islamic endowments) to find an office without steps and so the Wakf cleaned up and restored the place," he said.

Sabri's old office was in the Majlis al-Islami building, which abuts a gateway of the mosque compound, while the new one is only about 60 meters to the north, in the Bustan al-Mufti area of the compound. He used his new office five years ago, when he was the Wakf's director of preaching and guidance.

"There is no political aim here, and no one else [from the PA] has been involved" he said. Sabri said he moved into the new office two months ago.

Arafat has repeatedly asserted Palestinian control al-Aksa mosque, the third holiest site in Islam, as a central goal of the nationalist struggle. Sabri's appointment was widely viewed as a step in that direction.

Jordan still maintains a rival presence at the site, which it continued to oversee after the 1967 War. It recognizes its own mufti, Abdel Azeem Salhab, who has an office nearer to the Dome of the Rock than Sabri's new one.

To the dismay of the PA, Israel, during peace arrangements with Jordan, formally recognized a role for the Hashemite dynasty in overseeing Moslem shrines in Jerusalem.

David Bar-Illan, director of communications for Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, termed Sabri's relocation a "breaking of the status quo." Moreover, Sabri's argument that he cannot climb the stairs is "an insult to our intelligence," he said.

"No changes on the Temple Mount are allowed," he said. "To open an office on the Temple Mount only emphasizes the violation of the [Oslo Agreement].

"He is acting as an official of the PA, albeit as a religious emissary," Bar-Illan said. "Nevertheless, as a part of the PA he cannot operate in Jerusalem."

However, each side accuses the other of preempting the final talks, with the PA objecting to Israeli expansion of Jewish footholds in Arab neighborhoods, and Israel charging the PA with expanding the reach of its ministries into Jerusalem.

Jerusalem Police Chief Cmdr. Yair Yitzhaki said yesterday of Sabri, "In the coming year, the struggle with the sheikh will only increase."

Defense Minister Moshe Arens accompanied by Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz visits Hebron's Jewish community yesterday. (Flash 90)

Arens in Hebron discusses boosting construction

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Defense Minister Moshe Arens visited Hebron yesterday to discuss the Jewish community's demand for increased building construction.

Arens's communications aide Avi Kleinstein said Arens also raised the importance of accepting rejected IDF security proposals for the community.

Hebron community spokesman David Wilder said Arens promised to investigate a boost in construction in the city, adding that he preferred not to divulge the exact locations and details that were mentioned.

Arens told reporters he wanted to determine if it was necessary to make any changes in order to safeguard the Jewish community.

"He was attentive and asked questions and asked to hear how we envisioned the future," said Wilder. "His political perspective is far closer to ours than his predecessor's [Yitzhak Mordechai]."

Peace Now called Arens an extremist and demanded that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu fire him.

"The solution for the Jewish settlers in Hebron is to evict them and not strengthen their presence," charged spokeswoman Hagit Ya'ari.

Meanwhile, a Peace Now report declared that in the first nine months of 1998 there was a population increase of close to 6% in the larger settlements of Judea and Samaria.

Ya'ari said the statistics were based on figures of the National Employment Bureau. The report cited Oranit, Alfei Menashe, Efrata, Ariel, Betar Ilit, Givat Ze'ev, Modi'in Ilit, Ma'aleh Adumim and Karnei Shomron. Ma'aleh Adumim's population rose 7.2%.

Yehudit Tayar, spokeswoman for the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, charged that Peace Now should not spend so much time documenting the population in Judea and Samaria which has as much right to grow as anyone else in the country. "Peace takes two partners and yet Peace Now busy themselves documenting the Jewish communities and ignoring everything else," said Tayar.

J'lem police: We foiled 5 attacks on Temple Mount

by AMY KLEIN

Five attacks on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem's Old City were prevented over the last two months, Jerusalem police chief Commander Yair Yitzhaki said yesterday at the annual meeting to summarize police operations in the capital.

Yitzhaki said the toughest challenge facing police for the upcoming year was preventing attacks in the Old City. "There is nothing more important and more sensitive than the Old City. We have invested unprecedented manpower and resources to secure it," he said. Twenty of the 400 security cameras for the new "Mabat 2000" project have already been installed around the Old City, and by the year's end the NIS 20 million project should be completed.

Yitzhaki said that in the last two months police prevented five attempts – two by Jews – to perpetrate attacks at the Temple Mount. Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu also approved an additional NIS 57 million for beefing up security around the Temple Mount, but these funds have not yet been allocated to the police, Yitzhaki said.

With the millennium set to fall during Ramadan next year, the increased tensions in the Old City, and the threat of extremist Christians who want to be here for the event, Jerusalem police have their hands full for the upcoming year 1999, Yitzhaki said.

Police presence in eastern Jerusalem will be doubled from 60 officers to 120.

Crime in the capital was up only one percent over last year as compared to a national increase of 2.8%.

In 1998 there was a 24% increase in nationalist motivated crimes against Jews in Jerusalem such as stone and firebomb throwing. There were nine actual terror attacks against Jews such as stabbings and bombings in 1998 as compared to eight the previous year.

Two or three demonstrations per day were held in Jerusalem last year, with a total of 672 licensed gatherings in 1998 as compared to 856 in 1997.

Despite an illegal demonstration in Mea Shearim on Monday night when dozens of haredim burned tires and blocked a street, Yitzhaki said he believes the haredim tend to cooperate with police, noting that Sunday's demonstration and counter-demonstration with some 300,000 people went peacefully with only one arrest.

IDF successful in uncovering Hizbullah bombs

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

The IDF has in the past three months succeeded in detecting at least 16 groupings of bombs in south Lebanon, with each grouping containing six to seven bombs, a senior military source said last night.

The army has also succeeded in detecting two new types of sophisticated roadside bombs being used by Hizbullah, the source said. While bombs killed 16 out of the 20 IDF soldiers killed in the security zone last year, Hizbullah has more than doubled its use of mortar attacks compared to 1997, with shellings nearly a daily event. Hizbullah has also started using heavy 160 mm. mortars and 122 mm. cannon against IDF and SLA positions.

Reviewing the past year in Lebanon, the source, said the IDF killed at least 50 Hizbullah fighters last year. He said the IDF is responding to the mortar threat, with accurate return fire. He said the IDF has recorded successes, but he wouldn't elaborate.

He spoke shortly after IAF planes struck at Hizbullah targets for the third straight day. The IDF Spokesman said the jets hit guerrilla targets along Jabel Butum ridge in the western sector of south Lebanon. All jets returned safely to base.

The source claimed that troops in the security zone have high morale, and that the public debate over the IDF's presence in Lebanon does not influence them. He also claimed that Hizbullah's actions are not influenced by the public debate, but Hizbullah does use it for propaganda purposes.

The IDF has been quietly changing its mode of operations and tactics in the security zone, he said. " The IDF won't be tied down to territory and is taking a much more mobile character," he said.

He rejected persistent negative reports about the SLA. He said that morale among SLA militiamen was high and that there were only one or two cases of desertion in the past year. SLA commander Gen. Antoine Lahad was "healthy," he said.

According to IDF statistics, Hizbullah is believed to have been responsible for 85 percent of attacks in south Lebanon last year, with Amal claiming 10 percent and Palestinian opposition groups the rest.

The IDF is expecting a continued heavy use of mortar fire and road-side bombs in the coming year. Hizbullah also may try to kidnap a soldier and has never given up on its desire to stage a propaganda victory by overrunning an SLA or IDF position.

WJC to probe French banks' WWII conduct

The World Jewish Congress will next focus on French banks and the French government over Holocaust claims, it said yesterday. It also welcomed a decision by 12 leading German companies to set up a new fund to compensate victims of Nazi concentration camps and their heirs.

"There are very large, unresolved issues with France, concerning more than artwork," Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress said.

"After the occupation by the Nazis and the puppet-state of Vichy, the Jews of France and the foreign Jews not only were treated to the brutality of concentration camps but their assets were [seized]," he said. "There are questions remaining in the billions of dollars with the French banks and the French government."

He added that the size of the German Holocaust fund had yet to be set, and that more firms were expected to join. Deutsche Bank, which was one of the top German companies that agreed to the new Holocaust fund, had a major incentive for doing so. Germany's biggest bank wants to buy the eighth-largest US bank, Bankers Trust, a $10.1 billion deal that has been threatened by the Holocaust issues.

New York City Comptroller Alan Hevesi, who leads a network of state and local finance officials, had called for delaying the deal, the biggest-ever foreign takeover of a US bank, until the Holocaust claims are settled. Claims included charges by the US military in 1946 that Deutsche Bank was guilty of using slave labor. The bank has denied using slave laborers.

Hevesi, through a spokesman, called the German fund, which is expected to help resolve billion-dollar class-action suits brought in New York, a positive development, adding: "The key issue is a final agreement. Once there's a full agreement we'll have no objections to the merger.

(Reuters)

Germans announce fund for Holocaust slaves

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK – Major German industries, as expected, announced yesterday a fund to compensate former forced laborers during the Holocaust and immediately drew the wrath of one of the lead lawyers who has filed class-action suits against them in American courts, saying it was an "illusion" that would allow the companies to pay only "crumbs."

At a news conference in Bonn, industry leaders announced a joint declaration in which a dozen German enterprises accepted the "moral responsibility of German firms in the area of the use of slave labor, Aryanization and other injustice from the time of the Nazi regime."

They did not indicate how much German industry will pay into the humanitarian fund, which would compensate Jewish and non-Jewish former slave workers and other Nazi-era victims.

It would be launched September 1, the 60th anniversary of the invasion of Poland.

"This paper shows that German business can deal responsibly with its history," said Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder.

Setting up the foundation for "remembrance, responsibility and the future" are automakers Volkswagen, DaimlerChrysler and BMW, chemical and pharmaceutical companies Bayer, Hoechst and BASF, Deutsche and Dresdner banks, industrial firms Siemens, Degussa-Huels and Friedr. Krupp AG Hoesch-Krupp, and the Allianz insurance company.

The fund first became public last week, when Schroeder's envoy, Bodo Hombach, visited Washington to present its outline to the State Department, the survivors' lawyers and to Jewish organizations, including the Claims Conference, the World Jewish Congress and the American Jewish Committee.

Hombach said some 200,000-300,000 former slave laborers would be eligible for payments.

A statement from the companies said the step had been welcomed by the US and Israeli governments as "positive and brave."

In New York, attorney Melvyn Weiss assailed both the German announcement and the WJC.

"I am disgusted by the attempt by the German government, with the United States government, to preempt the rights of the victims to negotiate their own deal," he said. "This is highly objectionable, highly insulting to victims, many of whom they know are dead set against this and the involvement of the World Jewish Congress, which is acting in an officious manner without consulting us."

Weiss and a team of lawyers from across the US filed suits in American federal courts against the German banks and industry on behalf of Jewish and non-Jewish former forced laborers. They also are seeking compensation for the expropriation of Jewish property.

"This is nothing but an obvious attempt to cheapen the impact for [German industry]," Weiss said. "Taking some crumbs from each of these companies will make [the fund] look bigger. They are doing nothing but creating an illusion."

The German fund would not be the first compensation for forced labor.

Last week, it was reported that 60 Israelis who were slave laborers at Auschwitz will be the first to receive payments, of DM 10,000 (NIS 23,638), from VW's DM 20 million humanitarian fund. Siemens also already established a comparable fund.

Bronfman to be first head of 'Newco'

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK – Koor chairman Charles R. Bronfman has been named to take the helm of the American Jewish federation system, now known as "Newco," the unnamed conglomeration being formed by the merger of UJA and the Council of Jewish Federations, the organization announced this week.

Bronfman, who will become the first chairman of the new national entity, is also is co-chairman of Seagram, chairman of *The Jerusalem Report*, and benefactor of the CRB Foundation.

Recently, Bronfman and philanthropist Michael Steinhardt each contributed $5 million to launch Birthright Israel, a $300 million program to provide an "educational travel experience" to Israel for every Jew aged 15 to 26.

Although Bronfman is Israel-focused, he will be presiding over a system marked by a diminishing commitment to Israel. Most of the income raised by the federations remains in the US to finance local social service and education programs, although some goes to the Jewish Agency and the Joint Distribution Committee.

The merger plan fails to guarantee funding for the agency's programs at current levels and all but destroys the United Israel Appeal, which long was the conduit through which

Charles Bronfman (Eliahu Harati)

American Jewish philanthropic and US government grants reached the agency.

The Bronfman announcement came at the end of a week in which the federations tallied the results of their most celebrated and weakest event – Super Sunday.

The federations raise 90 percent of their income from less than 10 percent of the Jewish population. Nonetheless, they are committed to Super Sunday, an annual nationwide jamboree-like telethon in which thousands of volunteers scrounge for small donations from hundreds of thousands of contributors.

Federations contend that these events are inherently valuable as community-building exercises and say that, for many American Jews, the only link to the community is through an annual contribution to a local charity.

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Police crack down on gangs

By HEIDI J. GLEIT

Tel Aviv police yesterday morning arrested four gang members suspected of attempted murder, extortion, and illegally possessing weapons.

They also arrested a policeman, Moshe Akoubas, with connections to the Ramat Amidar gang, who is suspected of dealing in counterfeit US dollars.

All of the suspects are to be brought before Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court this morning for remand hearings.

Two women connected to the gangs also were detained for questioning.

The arrests are the result of an investigation that police "worked on not for months and weeks, but for years," said Tel Aviv police chief Cmdr. Shlomo Aharonishky.

"The gang warfare between Pardess Katz and Ramat Amidar began with the murder of Amir Zacharia in 1995 and has since taken the lives of seven victims."

The four arrested yesterday are suspected of attempting to murder Avi Bitan.

The investigation took a large step forward when Yossi Hadad, formerly the right-hand man of Pardess Katz gang leader Ronni Harari, turned state's witness in exchange for having all investigations against him closed.

A million names of victims go to Swiss bank account commission

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER

Over one million computerized names of Holocaust victims have been sent to the Volcker Commission to help in its investigation into the dormant Swiss bank accounts, Yad Vashem said yesterday.

The commission, headed by the former US Federal Reserve chairman Paul Volcker, will cross-index the computerized list with the names of Swiss Bank account holders, in order to locate those accounts belonging to Holocaust victims which have lain dormant since World War II.

Working together with Tadiran Information Systems, Yad Vashem supplied the list of names as part of its own computerization project of listing the more than three million names of Holocaust victims stored in its Hall of Names.

Yad Vashem has over the last few years been working to computerize all the names that have been documented on its "Pages of Testimony," which since the 1950s have been filled in by family or acquaintances of the victims. The $8 million cost of the project will be shared by the Swiss Bankers Association and the World Jewish Congress.

The Volcker commission was established in 1997 to investigate the dormant Swiss accounts. International pressure and the threat of US sanctions led the Swiss banks to release the names of World War II-era account holders.

Two major Swiss banks, Credit Suisse and UBS, agreed in August to pay $1.25 billion to settle class-actions against them for hoarding Jewish Holocaust-era accounts.

In turn, the World Jewish Congress and lawyers representing survivors would forgo all future claims against the banks, the Swiss National Bank and Switzerland. The settlement is not yet final, and no system is yet in place for the distribution of the proceeds.

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Tank fires shell close to jeep during IDF exercise in front of parents

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

A near tragedy occurred during an exercise on the Golan Heights this week when a tank crew demonstrating their talents before the parents of soldiers fired at a target, and the shell narrowly missed a jeep which had mistakenly entered the firing zone.

The live-fire exercise marking the end of combat training in an armored battalion was immediately halted before the bewildered parents, some who thought it was part of the show and others knowing it was a terrible safety violation.

One father, who declined to be identified, told Israel Radio that he and other parents had been told by the battalion commander shortly before the demonstration that the army was doing its best to look after their sons.

At one point the parents watched as a tank took up position and fired at a target.

"Suddenly a jeep appeared where the round had hit less than a minute before. People were rubbing their eyes in disbelief. I think the guy there [in the jeep] was in shock," the father said.

He said the tank crew was told to fire and then stop and then fire and stop. It was total confusion, he said.

"The whole think took place before the parents' eyes, and they see exactly into whose hands they are sending their children," the witness said.

The IDF Spokesman confirmed the report, saying that during a demonstration of armored troops a tank round was fired at an area where a jeep was located. The firing was immediately halted and the divisional commander appointed a lieutenant colonel to examine the matter.

The spokesman added that there were no injuries or damage in the incident.

A heavy fine

Agudat Yisrael head Rabbi Menahem Porush shakes hands with Rabbi Yitzhak Ralbag (left), chairman of the Jerusalem Religious Council, yesterday, after bringing him NIS 30,000 – in 10 agorot coins. Ralbag had been ordered to pay that amount, in court costs, to the Reform movement's Israel Center for Religious Action, after he had failed to convene the council with the Reform representative, Rabbi Na'ama Kelman-Ezrahi, and Rabbi Ebud Bandel, the Conservative representative. Ralbag had appealed to the haredi public to send him the coins to cover the fine. (Text: Haim Shapiro; photo: Sharmenko/Harari)

State Attorney officials report haredi threats

by AMY KLEIN

"The next bullet will be shot at your chest," was one of the threats made this week against State Attorney officials such as Edna Arbel and Talya Sasson. The State Attorney's Office filed a complaint yesterday to police about fliers distributed at Sunday's haredi demonstration in Jerusalem that published the home addresses of State Attorney officials, reading "We are not afraid of the police: Just like we overcame the Supreme Court, we will get you too!"

Justice Ministry spokeswoman Etti Eshed said yeterday the threats are not worth responding to, but that "it's unfortunate that state employees are being unjustifiably threatened."

Meanwhile Arbel met last night with Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein and police to determine whether to investigate Shas leader Rabbi Ovadia Yosef for insulting a public servant, making contemptuous statements about the court, and possibly even inciting the public. Yosef said last week that Supreme Court justices are evil, desecraters of the Sabbath, and that because of them all the suffering came to the world.

Meretz leader MK Yossi Sarid said yesterday that if the attorney-general does not decide to press charges against Yosef there will be no chance to indict others for similar transgressions. "If the law will not be applied to rabbis then it won't apply to other citizens and there will be anarchy here," Sarid said.

NEWS *in brief*

Reservist killed in APC accident

An IDF reservist was killed and four others lightly injured when the armored personnel carrier they were riding in turned over. The apparent accident occurred late Monday night at a training ground near Ketziot, military sources said. The reservist was identified as Rotem Egbar, 27, from Gan Yavne. He was buried in the local cemetery yesterday afternoon. Egbar was the first reservist killed since the unprecedented strike of reserve pilots over life insurance benefits. According to an interim agreement recently reached with the Defense Ministry, all reservists now receive the same benefits package as career soldiers.

The four injured reserve soldiers were hospitalized for treatment, and the army said they were all only slightly injured.

The IDF set up an inquiry into the incident. Egbar was the first reservist killed since August 1997. *Arieh O'Sullivan*

Porush asked to cancel immigrant mortgage rules

MK Marina Solodkin of Yisrael Ba'aliya yesterday appealed to Deputy Housing Minister Meir Porush to cancel new regulations which severely hamper new immigrants' ability to carry over mortgages on apartments taken by parents and their children, after one or more of the parents have died. The new guidelines, retroactive and implemented without warning, according to Solodkin, state that the amount received by the parents can only be carried over at market lending rates. Solodkin called this "highway robbery" aimed at immigrants from the former Soviet Union who supported her party in its fight against religious legislation. *Aryeh Dean Cohen*

Court workers strike

Secretarial staff at the nation's courts went on strike for the afternoon yesterday, after a week of sanctions had no effect. Workers, who are demanding increases in salary and manpower, said they will be back on the job this morning, though the sanctions will continue.

Court spokesman Moshe Gorali called on the workers to end the strike, noting that "now, when the courts are being attacked by various sources, is not the time for the workers to call a strike."

The demand for more workers is unjustified, he said, since between 1992 and 1998, the number of workers increased more than the number the number of cases heard in the courts. In addition, the courts have made several administrative changes which lessened their work load, he said. *Heidi J. Gleit*

Ethiopian immigrants strike at Givat Hamatos

Falash Mura immigrants at the Givat Hamatos caravan site yesterday declared a strike of adult education classes, complaining that not even basic necessities, like desks, are available. According to Israel Radio, some 150 Falash Mura are supposed to be learning Hebrew at the site. Appeals to the Jerusalem Municipality failed to produce the necessary items, and the Education Ministry ordered the classes closed until the equipment arrives. An Absorption Ministry spokesman said that the ministry had transferred funds for the purchase of equipment to the municipality two months ago. A municipality spokesman was unavailable for comment. *Aryeh Dean Cohen*

State Comptroller's Report split in two parts

State Comptroller Eliezer Goldberg has decided to split the annual report covering government ministries into two, to be delivered February 15 and July 15 each year and published 10 weeks later.

The first part of the 49th report for 1998 has been handed to the prime minister, the State Comptroller's Office said. By law it must be presented to the Knesset on April 26. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Non-Orthodox movements claim record support after rally

By HAIM SHAPIRO

Leaders of the Reform and Conservative movements said yesterday that Sunday's haredi demonstration against the Supreme Court, aimed at curtailing recognition of the non-Orthodox movements, has worked as a boomerang, with hundreds of Israelis who hitherto had no connection with the two movements now expressing a desire to join or support them.

"It's a classic Jewish response since the time of pharaoh. The more they persecute us, the more we flourish," said Rabbi Ehud Bandel, president of Israel's Conservative movement.

The interest in the two movements came as a result of a call to join and support them from a group of writers and thinkers, including A.B. Yehoshua, Amos Oz, S. Izhar, and David Grossman.

The writers made their appeal in reaction to the demonstration against the Supreme Court, in which the demonstrators had objected in particular to decisions that tended to grant legitimacy to the two non-Orthodox factions, such as ordering that their converts be registered as Jews and that their representatives be seated on local religious councils.

Bandel said that thus far the movement had received some 200 requests from individuals and families who wanted to join. To take advantage of this development, he said, all 42 local Conservative congregations in Israel were being asked to set up outdoor stands to sign up members, the movement's youth groups were soliciting members and the movement intended to publish advertisements, encouraging prospective members, in the Friday papers.

Menachem Leibowitch, director of the Reform movement in Israel, said that its switchboard was jammed with callers wishing to identify with the movement. Over a thousand had already called and sent faxes to express their support, he said, and the movement was sending out registration forms. All 27 Reform congregations, from Katzrin in the north to Yahel and Lotan in the south had become centers for registration, he added.

"What the haredim did for the Reform movement in the past week was more than we accomplished in the last 30 years," Leibowitch said.

No suspects yet in sex attacks on minors

By Jerusalem Post Staff

Police have increased their surveillance of schools in Herzliya, a police spokeswoman said yesterday, following a series of sexual assaults against girls in the town. The spokeswoman emphasized, however, that police routinely check schools and that the schools also have their own security guards.

Police were still searching yesterday for the man suspected of sexually assaulting five girls aged 10 to 16 in Herzliya the previous day.

A police spokeswoman said that the man who had been detained on Monday was released after investigators concluded he was not responsible.

In addition to the assaults in Herzliya, a seven-year-old girl was sexually assaulted in Ra'anana on Monday, only days after a nine-year-old was raped in her school in Petah Tikva.

Rape crisis centers to help prevent sexual abuse in schools

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

In a joint effort to prevent sexual abuse following the recent increase in anacks on or involving pupils, the Education Ministry yesterday announced plans to include rape crisis center activists in an information campaign among principals, teachers and pupils.

The decision was reached at a meeting yesterday between Education Ministry Yitzhak Levy and representatives of the country's rape crisis centers, a ministry spokesman said.

Those attending the meeting, including Shosh Zimmerman, who heads the ministry effort to prevent sexual abuse, raised the need to increase the information campaign and awareness of both teachers and pupils regarding sexual abuse.

Levy will meet today with principals of schools in the Herzliya region following the series of sexual assaults carried out there in recent days. He said he would soon call for a meeting between heads of the ministry's psychological services and those responsible for teacher training to guarantee that teacher training programs regularly include programs on this subject.

"We must work to increase the awareness of both teachers and teachers in training about this issue to give them the tools to properly and efficiently deal with the matter of sexual abuse," Levy said.

He added that the fact that many incidents had been uncovered within the education system in recent months involving sexual abuse required all professionals involved to cooperate in order to give teachers and pupils the tools to prevent such incidents and to quickly and efficiently deal with them and the victims when they do occur.

The rape crisis center staff and ministry officials will soon hold meetings to coordinate this joint activity.

Court agrees to consolidate lawsuit against tobacco company

The Tel Aviv District Court made public yesterday its approval of a proposal to consolidate lawsuits by 80 smokers and their heirs against the cigarette company Dubek for tobacco-related illnesses and deaths.

In allowing the plaintiffs to consolidate their claims, the court could follow the US example where class-action suits against tobacco companies have led to millions of dollars in awards for smokers, said the plaintiffs' lawyer, Gidi Frishtik.

Frishtik's clients seek $20m. in damages, charging that Dubek altered nicotine levels in its cigarettes to encourage addiction, withheld information about the harmful effects of smoking and targeted children with cigarette ads.

Tel Aviv District Court Judge G. Kling said the court would first rule on the issues common to all plaintiffs, such as whether the Dubek company released deceptive ads, then decide individual damages and awards. The court also agreed to allow future plaintiffs to join the case in the coming months.

The consolidation would allow future plaintiffs to benefit from a ruling in principle of wrong-doing by Dubek.

The consolidation is technically a mass tort, not a class action, Frishtik said. He said the concept of a class action has not been developed in Israeli law.

Frishtik also represents an Israeli health insurer suing Dubek for the costs of treating tobacco-related illnesses. Another Israeli health insurer is suing Dubek and American tobacco companies Philip Morris, R.J. Reynolds, Brown & Williamson, Liggett & Meyers, and Lorillard for $2b. in the Jerusalem district court.

The Health Ministry says 28 percent of the country's 5.9 million citizens smoke and 5,000 die each year from smoking-related diseases.

Frishtik said the court would hear the case early next year. Dubek had no comment. (AP)

Californian campaigns for Ron Arad

By TOM TUGEND

LOS ANGELES – Motorists traveling along the Pacific Coast Highway, skirting the ocean near Malibu, may be puzzled by an official state sign along the roadside bearing the legend "RON ARAD – IDF."

Not many of the drivers whizzing by will connect "IDF" to the Israel Defense Forces. Even fewer will identify Ron Arad as the Israel Air Force navigator shot down over Lebanon in 1986, whose fate and whereabouts are still unknown.

The man behind the campaign to find and free Arad is as unlikely as the sign along the California coastline.

He is Mark "Moshe" Hardie, a 27-year old African-American lawyer, who converted to Judaism – Orthodox style – and has become one of the most fervent champions of Israel – Binyamin Netanyahu style – in Los Angeles.

Hardie said he got the idea for his campaign while watching Steven Spielberg's *Saving Private Ryan*.

The ad for the World War II movie reads, "The mission is one man," and Hardie's mind immediately applied the slogan to the search for Arad.

With characteristic fervor, Hardie says, "Ron's freedom is our freedom... If *Hashem* [God] could free me from a violent ghetto youth, then *Hashem* can also free Ron Arad."

The type of sign bearing Arad's name is a fixture along most California highways and freeways. The blue-and-white signs are put up by the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) as part of its "Adopt-a-Highway" program.

The top of the sign reads "Litter Removal – Next 2 Miles," followed by a name, usually of a commercial enterprise or Hollywood star, who has pledged to keep a stretch of the road free of trash.

In almost all cases, a sponsor pays CalTrans to pick up the debris along the designated stretch, but Hardie does it the hard way.

Once a month, he drives his car along the two miles of the "Ron Arad" highway, collecting bottles, cans, and other junk along the roadside.

So far, Hardie has adopted four signs in Arad's name. Two – one facing north, the other south – are on the Pacific Coast Highway. The other two – also facing north and south – are on the Harbor Freeway, near Torrance, California.

Hardie has spent two summers in Israel, one studying at a yeshiva, another at the Hebrew University. He served as a special assistant to California Gov. Pete Wilson during the latter's just completed administration.

As part of the Arad campaign, Hardie hopes to mobilize the entertainment industry to bring Arad's plight to public attention through a documentary film, *Liberation Concerts*, and celebrity spokesmen.

Hardie's Arad campaign can be reached by e-mail at ronarad@hotmail.com

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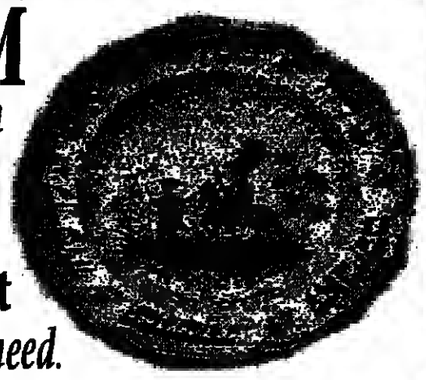

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Column One

Thomas O'Dwyer

President Bill Clinton went to Mexico this week, giving us a first opportunity to look at American foreign policy in the impeachment aftermath.

But the trip will also reflect back on Clinton's bruised relations with Congress and his long ordeal at the hands of its Republican-led assault. A cynical Congress is due to take an important vote soon on Mexico's anti-narcotics efforts, and it looks like it's becoming another Clinton-Republican battleground.

On the face of it, the 24-hour visit was a routine meeting of neighbors, with a modest agenda. Clinton did not even go to Mexico City, but stayed in Yucatan where President Ernesto Zedillo hosted his whirlwind visit at Hacienda Temozon (which means, er, Whirlwind Ranch.) It was Clinton's second official trip to Mexico, but he had met Zedillo six previous times.

There was an agreement to improve border safety, and others to prevent cross-border pollution and tuberculosis infections. There is an accord to train Mexico's federal police force. It is still being formed, but it's being modeled on the FBI and will aim to change, once and for all, the traditional Third World image of Mexico's police forces as corrupt, ill-educated and lacking authority.

Oh, that traffic

Then there is the under-reported boom in economic trade between the two countries. This is the success story of Clinton's once-scorned NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement), now five years old. After Canada, Mexico is now the second-largest foreign market for American exports. Sorry, Japan.

Clinton, not unreasonably, wanted to highlight that. He announced a two-year, $4 billion credit line for Mexican businesses that buy American. This should boost the already vibrant Mexican market for US exports and should also neatly kill off the occasional, but now muted, Republican criticisms of NAFTA being a trick to export American jobs to Mexico.

This has been just a bit difficult to sustain with full employment in the United States and US products flowing into Mexico. However, what White House spin doctors worked assiduously to avoid was excessive coverage of the most newsworthy aspect of US-Mexican relations – the drug traffic.

Clinton's schedule was so crowded that he had no time even to meet opposition political leaders (thus upsetting them), so the drugs issue should not be allowed to dominate the packed agenda.

So who's buying?

In two weeks the White House must give Congress a formal evaluation of Mexico's cooperation in shutting down the narcotics trade. It's a sorry record. Corruption and political fear of the narcotics mafia have somewhat dampened Mexico's enthusiasm.

Promises to extradite drug lords to the United States remain unkept and last year's haul of heroin and cocaine was disappointing since many drug seizure operations were simply dropped. Some infuriated US Congress people are threatening to savage the country with sanctions. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright has yet to write her opinion on how Mexico should be certified for its battle against narcotics, as called for under a 1986 law. But despite playing down the drug issue, it is clear one of the main points of Clinton's visit was to give Zedillo a friendly warning that the battle in Congress over certification is going to be tough.

The statements issued from Clinton's entourage make it clear he intends to certify Mexico as an effective and cooperative ally in the war on drugs. Congress can override that. Peevish Republicans who like to see Clinton as too soft on everything (well, almost everything) would like to give Mexico a diplomatic whack on the head and dump some tough economic sanctions on its lap.

Mexico sees all this as offensive and arrogant, and it brings up the old supply and demand argument. If Americans were not such greedy and persistent consumers of these Latin American narcotics, then who would even bother to smuggle them over the border?

Media, of course

It is one of those everyone-is-right circular arguments. The United States should concentrate on getting its own folks unhooked, rather than punishing its neighbors who are doing their best to stop aggressive suppliers from meeting the runaway demand.

In a feeble attempt at some Solomon-like judgment, a White House spokesman, David Leavy, said: "Clearly neither side has won the war on drugs."

Mercifully, he stopped short of suggesting they should therefore divide the trade, but such apologist flannel is not likely to stop Congress from wailing in anguish.

Backed into a corner, Mexican politicians adopt a similar defense posture common to the species homo politicus everywhere: "The media is ignoring great matters and important success stories to concentrate perniciously on one petty failure we don't want to talk about."

That quote is the generic template: what Deputy Foreign Minister Juan Rebolledo Goot actually said was: "Despite all our efforts we never succeed in bringing attention to our huge and complex bilateral agenda because the media always end up focusing on narcotics."

Oh, those intransigent media. No one had the courage to ask if Rebolledo is onto something. Or just on something.

The next Mexican revolution

If Mexico gives ex-pats voting rights, US residents of Mexican descent could shift the dynamics of next year's watershed elections

BY PATRICK J. MCDONNELL

If the plan is implemented on time, 10 million new Mexican voters could be added to the Central American country's electorate. (AP)

From a Los Angeles storefront on a strip of a local boulevard punctuated with Spanish-language signs for fast food joints and Laundromats, a group is plotting the next Mexican revolution.

Activists there are part of a movement to gain voting rights for millions of Mexicans living in the US – enough voters to influence Mexico's watershed elections next year.

"We can elect the next president of Mexico," said Armando Moreno, a Los Angeles boot salesman and part-time volunteer.

Many call the goal quixotic. There is strong opposition on both sides of the border, with critics in Mexico warning of US interference in Mexican sovereignty.

"In today's political context, it's a long shot," acknowledged Emilio Zebadua, a board member of the Mexico's Federal Electoral Institute.

But revolutions have been built on less, say supporters. Approval by Mexican lawmakers would shift the dynamics of next year's national elections, a contest that may mark a turning point in Mexican history.

It also would produce an extraordinary spectacle: the conversion of Southern California into a campaign battlefield for Mexican candidates.

Pro-vote volunteers in southern California embody the range of Mexican immigrants, from gardeners and factory hands to business owners. Undaunted by the many hurdles that remain, organizers are planning a national meeting in San Antonio, Texas, next month.

"We contribute to the well-being of Mexico, why shouldn't we participate in its political life?" asked Carlos Olamendi, an Orange County restaurant owner.

While most of the activists are longtime US residents, many with children born here, they maintain strong civic and emotional links to their homeland. They have garnered considerable support among immigrant organizations here, as well as from political groups in Mexico.

"The only thing stopping our compatriots living abroad from voting in 2000 is political will," said Mexican Sen. Mario Saucedo of the opposition Democratic Revolutionary Party.

He was speaking to an enthusiastic crowd at the Los Angeles headquarters of the Pro Vote Mexico 2000 Committee, the volunteer group spearheading the effort in conjunction with sister organizations stretching from New York to Texas to Washington state.

MEXICANS are seeking an electoral right that many others – including US citizens living abroad – have long enjoyed. South Africans, Armenians and Colombians, for example, are among those in the US who can vote in their homelands' elections.

The landmark constitutional amendments necessary to allow absentee voting have already been approved. But implementing legislation is still needed. Opposition groups plan to take up the question in March, when the Mexican Congress reconvenes. For the voting plan to be approved for the 2000 election, the Congress must act by July.

Even consideration of the measure by lawmakers is a testament to the growing political clout of Mexicans in the US, once reviled in their homeland as traitors.

Today, the growing strands of Mexico's political structure are vying for the support of Mexico's immigrants, who send home at least $5 billion a year. Trips to Los Angeles are now de rigueur for political candidates. These days, no major party dares sneer publicly at Mexicans abroad.

Nonetheless, out-of-country voting would be a powerful new factor in an election already expected to be momentous. Many observers believe there is a chance the long-dominant Institutional Revolutionary Party – called the PRI – will lose the presidency for the first time since it emerged as a unifying force a decade after the end of the Mexican Revolution in 1917.

Crucial questions remain. Among the most fundamental: Who will be eligible to vote? What will be the registration process? How and where will voters cast ballots?

Cost will certainly be a major factor. Creating an electoral infrastructure in the US – including voter identification cards and thousands of polling places – will cost between $76 million and $350 million, according to official estimates.

Even so, a special panel appointed by Mexico's Federal Electoral Institute said in a November report the landmark change was plausible.

THE report's findings stunned those who had assumed the most workable plan would be to only allow out-of-country voting in 2000 by a limited number of immigrants – those who were born in Mexico and had not yet become US citizens.

Instead, the report concluded it was feasible to allow voting by all adult Mexican nationals, as well as everyone newly eligible for Mexican nationality – including an estimated 2.7 million US-born children of Mexican parents.

Millions of US residents of Mexican heritage are now eligible for Mexican nationality under separate constitutional changes approved last year.

That could add up to more than 10 million new Mexican voters – 99 percent of them living in the United States, according to the commission. They would make up as much as 15% of Mexico's voters.

That prospect has energized pro-vote advocates working out of the local storefront. In recent months they have gathered signatures, badgered consulates, held protest meetings and hosted Mexican lawmakers.

"It is time our views and interests are represented in Mexico," said Felipe Aguirre, a paralegal who is president of the local group. "For too long we have been treated like second-class citizens."

Many activists, like Aguirre, are naturalized US citizens and longtime residents.

"I don't see any conflict at all," Aguirre said of voting in both the Mexican and US presidential elections next year. "It's an exercise in democracy."

SUPPORTERS include people connected to all major Mexican parties.

Armando Moreno, the Los Angeles boot merchant, supports the conservative National Action Party, whose right-wing views are an anathema to Aguirre and others. Yet all are working together toward the goal of enfranchisement.

"This is not a question of party loyalty," said Moreno, also a naturalized US citizen. "On the matter of the vote we are united."

Organizers have pulled in key allies, including influential home-state associations. The group representing the northern state of Zacatecas, a major source of immigrants, was an important player in the victory last July of Gov. Ricardo Monreal, of the opposition Democratic Revolutionary Party. He is an avid supporter of absentee voting.

"It is only natural that we Mexicans here should be able to vote," said Victor Manuel Sanchez, local president of a federation of dozens of US-based fraternal groups tied to Zacatecas.

"Should the Mexican authorities pass a law permitting external voting, it would serve as an example and model for the world of the enfranchisement of such a large population abroad," said Richard Soudriette, president of the International Foundation for Election Systems, a nonprofit research group based in Washington, D.C., that monitors elections worldwide.

The absentee voting proposal has the outright support of only one major Mexican political party, the leftist Democratic Revolutionary Party. The conservative National Action Party, the nation's second political force, is split.

The ruling PRI is widely viewed as adverse to broad absentee voting rights, unnerved by a new electoral front to the north, far from its control.

One widely repeated assumption is that immigrants in the US would vote against the ruling party. But the PRI, through its consular networks, has close ties to social clubs and other Mexican-American civic groups, relationships that could be mobilized to the party's benefit.

'Eco-terrorists' turn out to be Mounties

By STEVEN PEARLSTEIN

When a bomb exploded last October at a gas well just west of the tiny Alberta town of Beaverlodge, few doubted that it was the latest attack by a small band of "eco-terrorists" who had been waging a guerrilla war against the oil and gas industry.

Alberta Premier Ralph Klein vowed to punish the saboteurs to the "fullest extent of the law," while the target of the blast, Alberta Energy Co. Ltd., announced it was doubling the $50,000 reward it had offered for help nabbing the perpetrators.

Ranchers and oil field workers flocked to a series of community meetings to hear from an anti-terrorism expert flown in from Toronto.

There was talk that people might have to take matters into their own hands if police didn't do something to stop the man widely believed to be the ringleader of the eco-insurrection, a 56-year-old organic farmer and Calvinist preacher named Wiebo Ludwig.

But at a bail hearing for Ludwig two weeks ago, prosecutors acknowledged that it was not Ludwig who had detonated the bomb at Beaverlodge, but the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) working secretly with Alberta Energy.

According to RCMP documents, it was all part of a ruse designed to insinuate a police informant into Ludwig's band – a neighbor whose testimony and tape-recorded conversations led to Ludwig's arrest in January on nine counts of conspiracy to destroy property and violate explosives laws.

Since the revelation, Canadian newspapers have lined up to editorialize against the unusual police tactics. Cartoonists had a field day at the expense of the Mounties' bomb squad. Opposition politicians demanded investigations.

And most legal experts have agreed with Edmonton lawyer Gwilym Davies, a former law professor, that the Mounties had "gone over the line" in fighting crime with crime.

"This isn't Waco, Texas," said Ludwig's lawyer, Richard Secord. "It's Canada! We don't do things like that up here."

FOR the Mounties, this was the latest in a string of controversies that have damaged their Dudley Do-Right reputation. For more than a year, a special panel has been trying to determine whether the Mounties trampled the rights of student protesters at a summit of Pacific Rim leaders on orders from Prime Minister Jean Chretien.

In Edmunton, a judge recently threw out murder charges against a man whom the Mounties had tried to entrap into a confession by staging a fake killing in front of him and sending him to Toronto to pick up an illegal million-dollar payoff.

Late last month, an investigation opened in Calgary into the shooting of an aboriginal woman and her 9-year-old son by a Mountie who was called to their house to quell a domestic disturbance.

But in the town of Hythe, where Ludwig lives and where concerns about civil liberties take a back seat to concerns about safety, residents have lined up solidly behind the Mounties.

"If you blow up a sour gas line, you will kill a lot of people," said Hythe Mayor Frank Webb, referring to the strain of gas found in Edmunton that can be fatal if inhaled even in small doses. "That's not eco-terrorism — that's just plain terrorism. We had to do something to put a stop to it."

Ever since a gas leak forced evacuation of his 320-acre Trickle Creek "community" in 1991, Ludwig has blamed the industry for the death of 60 of his livestock and a succession of human health problems.

At first, he filed administrative appeals with government regulators who said, along with industry officials, that there was no scientific evidence linking oil-patch activities to problems with animal or human health. But beginning in 1996, Ludwig began issuing warnings of possible violence if the industry did not change its ways.

Small acts of sabotage against the industry began that year. After another year, bullets were fired through the manager's office at the Alberta Energy Co. plant in Hythe.

Eventually, the RCMP assigned as many as 100 investigators to the case. At the same time, oil and gas companies began hiring bodyguards for their top executives and security details to patrol their plants and well sites.

By the time of the Beaverlodge bombing, police had logged nearly 160 incidents, including three gas-line bombings and the encasement of three wellheads in concrete. In media interviews, Ludwig refused to say if he was responsible but acknowledged that he knew and sympathized with the people who were.

IN July 1998, Alberta Energy offered to pay Ludwig $525,000 for his land – 50 percent above market value – a deal he was prepared to accept until he read the fine print, which required him never to come back within 500 miles of Trickle Creek and never to talk publicly about the buyout or his environmental concerns for the property.

Infuriated, he rejected the offer and vowed to stay and fight.

In the following months, three bombs went off at oil and gas wells, all within several hundred miles of Hythe. Within hours of the third, Ludwig, his son Bo and an associate named Richard Boonstra were arrested at a police roadblock and charged in connection with the bombing.

The next day, dozens of RCMP officers descended on Trickle Creek with search warrants, but they couldn't gather enough evidence to tie the trio directly to the bombing, and the charges were dropped.

It was then, in early October 1998, according to court documents, that Robert Wraight, a neighbor of Ludwig's, contacted Alberta Energy with an offer to provide information regarding Ludwig's "criminal involvement."

A onetime Ludwig sympathizer, he now claimed to be motivated by concern for his family's safety and the prospect of selling his property to the utility for $70,000.

Wraight's offer was passed to the RCMP, which took it up, assigned him the code name "K4020" and began to coach the new agent on how to infiltrate Ludwig's band.

But according to an RCMP memo, Ludwig was suspicious of him and indicated that Wraight needed to prove his commitment to the cause. The RCMP came up with the scheme to blow up an abandoned wellhead shed near Beaverlodge, for which Wraight could take credit in conversations with Ludwig.

RCMP spokesmen said last week that their reliance on the unusual investigative technique reflected the urgency they felt to put Ludwig behind bars.

Meanwhile, in press interviews and anonymous notes, Ludwig was warning that the next target of an anti-utility campaign would be industry executives in Calgary or the Mounties themselves.

"Sometimes I think we should take the president of Alberta Energy Co. hostage, tie him up and make him watch the video of Abel Ryan," Ludwig told *Outside* magazine, referring to a tape he had made showing the stillborn grandson his daughter had delivered that summer. "And then slit his throat."

It never came to that. Last month, Ludwig and Boonstra were arrested on charges that appear to be based almost exclusively on taped conversations with Wraight and information he provided.

Wraight is believed to be living in British Columbia under the Mounties' witness-protection program. Ludwig and Boonstra are being held without bail, pending a preliminary hearing in May.

(The Washington Post)

Yad Vashem
The Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority

Monsignor HUGH O'FLAHERTY

Anyone with information on the above person, or who was rescued by him during the German occupation of Italy is kindly requested to contact Yad Vashem with his/her testimony:

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Nine die as series of powerful explosions hits Tashkent

Uzbekistan president escapes attack

By TIMOFEI ZHUKOV

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan (AP) – A bomb ripped through Uzbekistan's government headquarters yesterday, followed by a shoot-out and several other explosions aimed at killing President Islam Karimov.

At least nine people were killed and dozens injured in six nearly simultaneous explosions, five of them car bombs, the government said.

Karimov appeared on state-controlled television shortly after the blasts and said they were an attempt to assassinate him. The authoritarian president had been expected at government headquarters when the bombs went off, but changed his plans at the last minute and was not present, the Interfax news agency said.

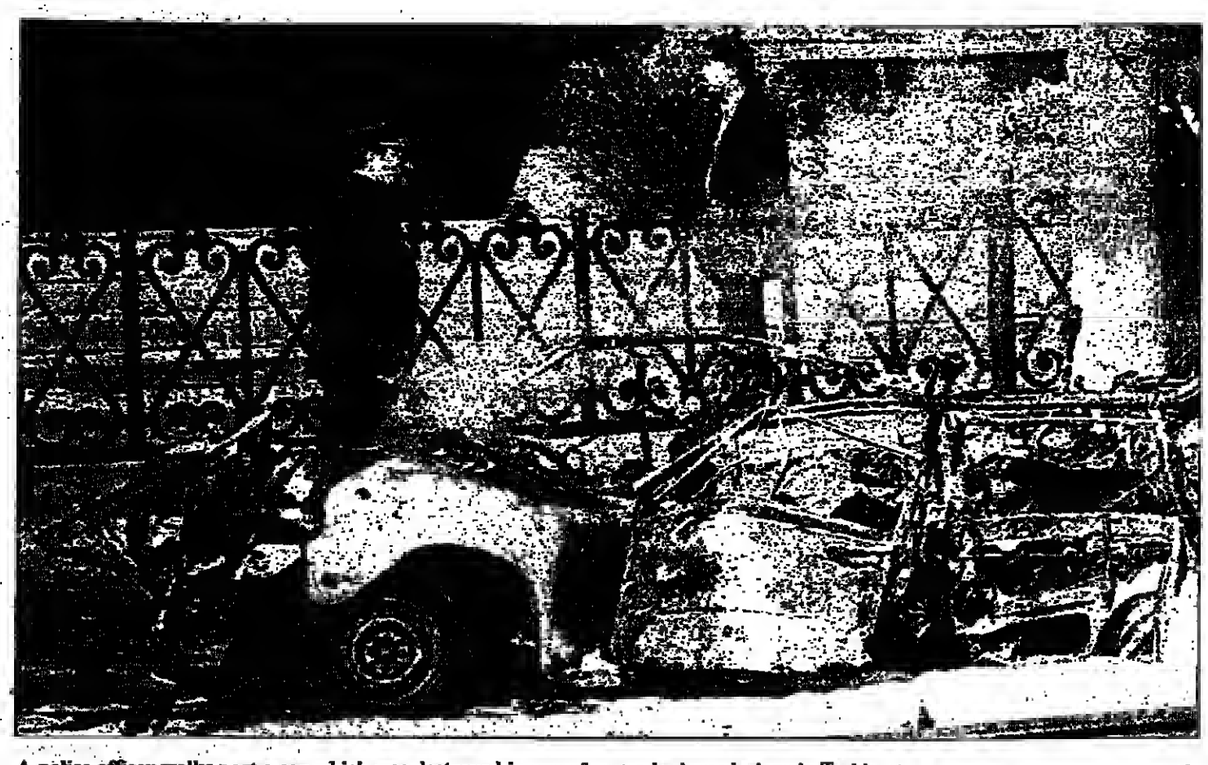
The blasts took place before a scheduled cabinet meeting. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack.

"The task of these people was to spoil our present lives, to mislead the people, to scare the people," Karimov said. "Let them know that we have the strength and trust that we've chosen the right path. No force will ever make us change the course."

Karimov has led Uzbekistan since it gained independence in 1991, and yesterday's attack was one of the worst outbreaks of violence during his tenure.

Karimov's government maintains tight security even during times of calm, and it stepped up its efforts immediately following the blast.

The bombed buildings were cordoned off. Roadblocks were set up and traffic was re-routed. Planes, trains, and buses were not allowed to travel in the hours immediately after the attack.



A police officer walks past a car which was destroyed in one of yesterday's explosions in Tashkent. (AP)

The first bomb went off in the lobby of the government headquarters in Tashkent. Shortly afterward, a car broke through a police cordon set around the site of the blast, prompting security guards to open fire. Two attackers were killed in a shoot-out, according to a policeman.

The car itself then exploded, and then four more cars exploded around the city.

"By all appearances it was a terrorist act, because the cars all blew up at the same time," the Emergency Situations Committee said in a statement.

Among the sites targeted in the blasts were the Interior Affairs Ministry, the National Bank, and a building that boused several embassies.

The blast at the National Bank damaged several of the building's 22 stories, and police reported numerous injuries and possible deaths.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin condemned the attack in a statement issued in Moscow, calling it a "cynical terrorist act."

Karimov has frequently cracked down on political opponents and has drawn criticism from international human rights groups.

There has been sporadic unrest in Uzbekistan in recent years, but Karimov is considered to have a firm grip on power.

Karimov argues that his tough policies have maintained stability in Uzbekistan and prevented any spillover of the turmoil that has wracked the Central Asian nations of Afghanistan and Tajikistan.

Aziz: Iraq not threatening neighbors

By JON HEMMING

ANKARA (Reuters) – Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz denied yesterday that Iraq was threatening neighboring countries hosting Western aircraft to launch strikes at Iraqi targets.

The US has warned Iraq to expect swift action if it attacks its neighbors or the bases used by US and British planes.

"Iraq is not threatening its neighbors," Aziz told a news conference in Ankara. "You are being threatened by aircraft who enter your airspace and attack you. If you complain about that, is that a threat?"

Iraqi Vice President Taha Yassin Ramadan on Monday echoed warnings by President Saddam Hussein against Kuwait and Saudi Arabia from where Western planes patrol southern Iraq.

"Iraq is able to do significant harm in these dens and this region," Ramadan told Iraqi satellite television.

"It is too late now for the American and British aggressors and their evil supporters and they will pay a dear price," said the Iraqi government newspaper *al-Jumhouriya* yesterday.

US jets flying from the joint Turkish-US Incirlik airbase in southern Turkey attacked two air defense sites in northern Iraq on Monday. Baghdad said the latest air strikes in the south of Iraq had killed five people and wounded 22.

"American and British planes are killing Iraqis and destroying Iraqi property, and of course this is not acceptable," said Aziz, who arrived in Turkey last Sunday.

"It is unfortunate they are using a Turkish airbase. This does not serve good relations between Turkey and Iraq... We hope Turkey will draw the right conclusions from this."

Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit on Monday rejected a personal appeal from Aziz to halt the flights from Turkey, saying the US pilots acted in self-defense.

Nixon adviser Ehrlichman dies, 73

By TOM SALADINO

ATLANTA (AP) – John D. Ehrlichman, president Richard Nixon's domestic affairs adviser who was disgraced and imprisoned for his role in the Watergate cover-up that ultimately led to Nixon's resignation, died Sunday at 73.

Ehrlichman and Nixon's chief of staff, H.R. Haldeman, were virtually indistinguishable by the public. Both were close to Nixon and they became known as the "Berlin Wall," because they constituted a kind of palace guard that shielded the reclusive Nixon from unwelcome encounters.

Ehrlichman coined a phrase that became part of America's political lexicon when he advised Nixon to allow L. Patrick Gray 3rd, then acting director of the FBI, to become the fall guy for Watergate and to leave him "twisting slowly, slowly in the wind."

In April 1973, as the cover-up began to unravel and pressure mounted, Nixon held a tearful meeting at his presidential retreat at Camp David, Maryland with his two intimate and powerful advisers – the iron-willed Haldeman and the self-controlled Ehrlichman. By that time, Nixon's counsel, John W. Dean 3rd, had implicated them in the Watergate cover-up.

A 1973 file photo of John Erlichman (AP)

The next day, Nixon fired Dean, and accepted the resignations of Haldeman, Ehrlichman, and attorney general Richard Kleindienst. Nixon hoped that the sacrifices of his closest aides would stanch the scandal and spare him.

Ehrlichman went to prison in October 1976 and served 18 months of a four-to-eight-year term for obstruction of justice, conspiracy, and perjury. He quit politics, moved to Santa Fe, New Mexico, wrote "inside" political novels, and became a radio commentator.

His conviction grew out of his false testimony to a Senate committee and of a break-in in the Beverly Hills office of Dr. Lewis Fielding, a psychiatrist who had treated Daniel Ellsberg, the former Pentagon aide who leaked the Pentagon Papers to *The New York Times*.

Ehrlichman was born in 1925, in Tacoma, Washington. He graduated from University of California, Los Angeles and got a law degree at Stanford University in 1951.

During World War II, he was a lead navigator in the 8th Air Force where he earned the Air Medal clusters and the Distinguished Flying Cross. Before joining the White House, Ehrlichman was a partner in the Seattle law firm of Hullin, Ehrlichman, Roberts, and Hodge from 1952 to 1968.

WORLD

in brief

US to Serbs: Accept Kosovo plan or else

RAMBOUILLET, France (AP) – Christopher Hill, the top US mediator at the Kosovo peace talks, flew to Belgrade yesterday to tell Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic: If no agreement is reached by the noon Saturday deadline, he would suffer NATO bombardment.

The ethnic Albanians appear ready to sign a US-dictated agreement but the Serb side remains the obstacle, according to State Department spokesman James Rubin.

US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright visited the talks over the weekend and was sharply critical of the Serb side.

The Serbs were counting on Russia to back up their refusal, but it became clear yesterday that Moscow was not prepared to block a military annex to the plan.

Romanian coal miner leader heads march

PETROSANI, Romania (AP) – A day after being sentenced to 18 years in prison for a deadly 1991 protest, the leader of Romanian coal miners led his followers on a defiant march toward the capital yesterday.

Cozma was sentenced in absentia by the Supreme Court on Monday for undermining state authority and jeopardizing railway traffic. The sentence was a dramatic increase of an earlier 18-month sentence, which he completed last year.

The Romanian Interior Ministry was on alert and Interior Minister Dudu Ionescu condemned the protest as "similar to an act of terrorism." He said troops were preparing to take all measures to prevent miners reaching the capital.

Japan: N. Korea can launch long-range missile

TOKYO (AP) – Japan's Defense Agency said yesterday that North Korea has acquired the technology to launch a long-range ballistic missile capable of reaching parts of the United States, according to Japanese news reports.

Japan's semi-government television network NHK quoted unidentified Japanese defense sources as saying North Korea has made a significant progress in developing its Taepodong-2 liquid-fuel missiles, which are believed to be capable of reaching the Hawaii and Alaska with heavy payloads, and the US mainland with lighter payloads.

Communists slam government investigation

MOSCOW (AP) – A government probe into the activities of the Communist Party amounts to a "witch hunt," Communist leaders said yesterday in denouncing the investigation.

The Justice Ministry said Monday that it was looking into the Communist Party's activities, but did not provide details. The Communists have been at odds with President Boris Yeltsin throughout his tenure and are currently leading a long-shot effort to impeach him.

Communist Party leader Gennady Zyuganov said his organization "acts in strict compliance with the law." The party has come under harsh criticism in recent months for anti-Semitic remarks uttered by several members.

British court tours site of Nazi war crime

DOMACHEVO, Belarus (AP) – A British court convened in this western Belarusian village yesterday, judge and jury retracing the "path of death" to a snowy forest where a Nazi collaborator allegedly killed four Jews who escaped a massacre during World War II.

The collaborator, a 77-year-old former policeman named Anthony Sawoniuk, is charged with the four deaths in the first war crimes trial in British history. The case also marked the first time a British court has convened on foreign soil.

Yachtswoman rescued by Italian comrade

PARIS (Reuters) – French solo yachtswoman Isabelle Autissier was rescued from her capsized yacht yesterday after battling storm-tossed waters near Antarctica for nearly 24 hours, her team said in Paris.

Italian Giovanni Soldini, a fellow competitor in the Around Alone sailing race, picked her up after racing against the clock to reach her in a remote area out of reach for commercial ships and aircraft.

"I'm on an Italian tour now...and not unhappy about it," Autissier, 42, said in a message telexed via satellite from Soldini's boat to her team headquarters.

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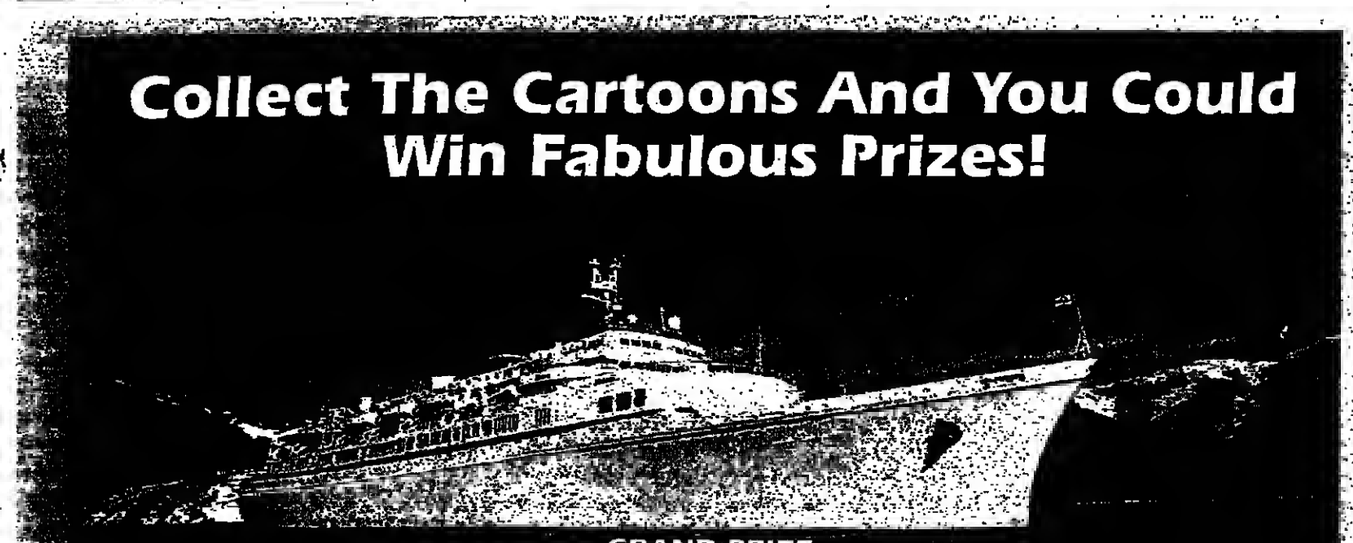

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Labor's first act

Last night's unprecedented scenes of near-tumult at the Labor Party's supposed celebration of its primary results are but a foretaste of what is likely to happen should Labor Party leader Ehud Barak go ahead with his plan to introduce non-Labor figures into the One Israel list for the Knesset, with which he intends to run.

Yesterday the argument centered on whether Adisu Massala had unfairly lost his slot as the immigrants' representative to Sofa Landver: in the future the dispute will be even more bitter as veteran party figures risk losing their safe positions on the list to untested outsiders.

Unlike the Likud, whose central committee voted to set the party's list, Barak has reserved the right for himself, under certain circumstances, to introduce his own candidates to the list, without their having had to suffer the indignity of competing in a democratic election. Shimon Peres has already enjoyed this privilege – his position as Barak's No. 2 was already agreed upon before the primaries took place. Now Barak wants to add more names.

Barak's logic is that the Labor Party by itself, without reaching out to wider sectors of the population, is unlikely to win May's election and bring him the coveted post of prime minister. Looking at both the success of Tony Blair in Britain, who turned an old-fashioned socialist Labor Party into New Labor, the party of the center, and Gerhard Schroeder's election victory in Germany as the head of a newly moderate Social Democratic party, Barak knows he has to bring about a similar revolutionary change in Labor.

Given that in Israel, unlike in the rest of the developed world, the economy – sadly – is not the electorate's main concern, Barak is searching not for a change from a statist economy to a free-enterprise society, but rather for personalities who he hopes will bring a political dowry of 30,000 or so votes that might be enough to swing the prime ministerial election.

This explains Barak's courting of the essentially has-been David Levy on the one hand, and this campaign's would-be working-man's hero, Shlomi Lahiani – who sprang from nowhere to almost win Bat Yam's mayoralty in November – on the other. Barak hopes that both Levy and Lahiani can bring votes to himself personally, and to Labor under the One Israel umbrella, that neither he nor the party would have won otherwise.

The danger here for Barak is two-fold. First, there is no guarantee that either Levy or Lahiani's one-time supporters will transfer their affections to Barak and One Israel: indeed, Likud breakaways have generally failed once they cut their ties with their mother party.

Second, Barak still needs to win the formal approval of Labor's central committee to change the list.

After last night's most un-Labor-like rowdiness, it is clear there will be fierce opposition within Labor to outsiders parachuting in to the Labor list at the expense of loyal Laborites (or even at Haim Ramon's expense), and Barak must decide whether a major party row before the elections is really in his interest. He certainly didn't come out of last night's fracas looking like a potential prime minister.

The Massala confrontation aside, the primary generated few surprises. In contrast to the Likud central committee vote, which put eight new faces in realistic slots – including some total unknowns, such as 24-year-old Gila Gamliel and 25-year-old Liat Rahner – the new faces in Labor are hardly new or in the first flush of youth.

Although he will not like the comparison, former deputy chief of staff Matan Vilna'i followed the path set by Yitzhak Mordechai three years ago by entering politics and taking a party's primaries by storm.

His third-place finish in the primary fits well with Labor's tradition of placing a just-retired high-profile general high up on the list in the hope of projecting a tough image to balance the party's support for territorial compromise. Reports that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu had offered Vilna'i the defense portfolio as Mordechai dithered over joining the Center Party certainly puncture the prime minister's comments yesterday as to the out-and-out left-wing tilt of the Labor list.

The other newcomer, Colette Avital, is a veteran diplomat and well-known public figure, due largely to her tenure as consul-general in New York and, more recently, her much-publicized run-in with Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon, which led to her quitting the Foreign Ministry. Ironically, she might have Sharon to thank for helping her find a new career – if, of course, her last-minute drop down the list to make room for Landver does not leave her high and dry after the elections.

Indeed, Labor may very well rue the fact that such an impressive woman candidate as Avital has been pushed out of the party's top 20. The Likud, with both Limor Livnat and Naomi Blumenthal in the top 10, has definitely proved itself more open to talented women.

Interestingly, in a result similar to the vote in the Likud, Barak did not succeed in persuading his party's members to support a number of candidates whom he wanted in realistic places. While Netanyahu received a stronger slap in the face – outspoken critics of the premier such as Livnat and Uzi Landau won top slots while his two most senior ministers, Sharon and Moshe Arens, were downgraded – Barak failed to ensure his loyal ally Ori Orr's continued presence in the Knesset.

Without doubt, Labor's members acted wisely here. Orr should have resigned immediately after he made stupid, racist remarks about Israel's Moroccan community, and Barak erred in not forcing the issue at the time. Had Orr succeeded in landing a realistic place on the Labor list, the Likud's election campaign would have been made significantly easier.

The meteoric rise of Shlomo Ben-Ami, meanwhile, from just making it into the Knesset in 1996 to the top of today's Labor list is another sign of political maturity on the part of Labor voters. But whether this maturity will stretch to opening up the list even wider is questionable in the extreme. What is clear is that Barak's leadership faces further tests as he agonizes over his party's final list.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FAMILY DYNAMICS

Sir, – In response to Judy Siegel's article "Divorce harms children's long-term mental health – study" (February 10), we found the headline to be sensationalist and the article misleading.

If, as the authors of the study point out, "70% of depression patients did not come from a broken home," and, if, as they also note, "association does not imply causation," there is no justification for the "warning" with which Siegel opens her article.

With regard to the research itself, it would appear from Siegel's summary, that the researchers did not study the characteristics of the families of the patients in their sample. Thus, there is no information about the parents who divorce, the family dynamics prior to the divorce, the divorce process itself or the post-divorce parenting arrangements.

Our experience over the years has shown that the process of family mediation enables the divorcing couple to separate emotionally, as spouses, and at the same time, to work on developing the necessary shared-parenting tools to continue providing their children with what they need for their emotional health and development.

It is important to know that in those cases where divorce is unavoidable, there are professional services which can help both parents and children move beyond the trauma of divorce in order to rebuild their lives.

LISA OKON MSW,
JEFF FRIEDMAN MSW
Family Mediation Service.

Jerusalem.

MARRIAGE EDUCATION

Sir, – Congratulations on the prominence to which you gave "Divorce harms children's long-term mental health – study" (February 10). A study conducted in the US found divorce also contributes to underlying child poverty, and the same goes for Israel – where running two homes is bound to be more costly, with added expense when remarriage takes place on one or both sides. Carting children between homes is also expensive in emotional terms.

Funds should be forthcoming for programs aimed at tackling the underlying causes of marriage breakdowns instead of investing in increasing crisis services that try to cope with the results of marital misunderstandings, tensions and family breakdown.

PESSY KRAUSZ
Honorary Founding Director,
Shalshelet,
Marriage Education and
Guidance Center

Jerusalem.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

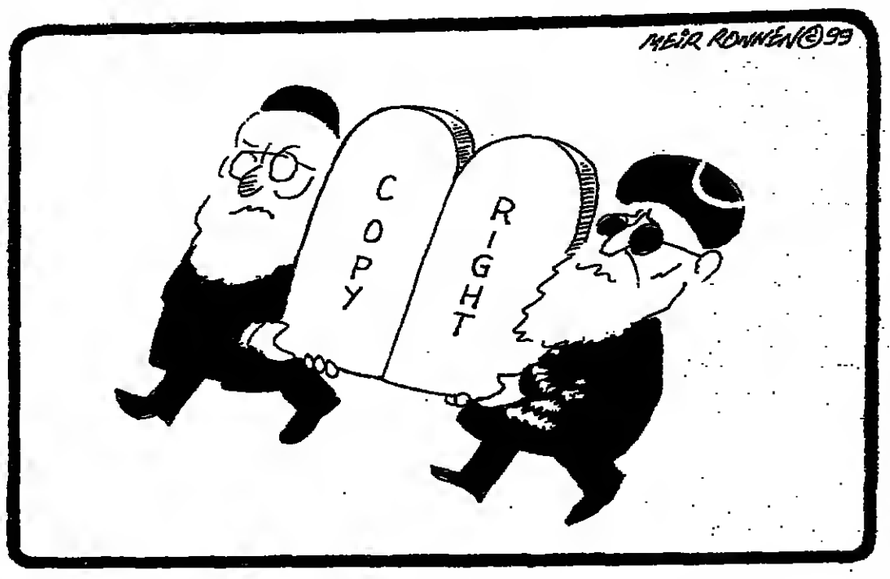
65 years ago: On February 17, 1934, *The Palestine Post* reported that the stormy weather made the disembarkation from arriving ships, including the 46,000-ton Cunard liner *Aquitania,* most difficult. The British steamer *Wallsend* ran aground at Nakura.

50 years ago: On February 17, 1949, *The Palestine Post* reported that the Constituent Assembly had officially elected Dr. Chaim Weizmann as the first President of Israel by 83 votes against 15 cast for Dr. Yosef Klausner. A "Small Constitution" was also adopted defining the presidential powers and duties.

25 years ago: On February 17, 1974, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that an Israeli soldier was killed by Syrian fire.

Arab states threatened to continue the oil embargo against the US until Washington agreed that a military disengagement on the Syrian front would become a part of an overall Middle East settlement and Israel withdrew from Golan.

Alexander Zvielli



Out in the cold

DAVID NEWMAN

Conspicuous in their absence from either of the demonstrations held in Jerusalem on Sunday were the religious Zionists. One had to look hard for knitted kippot in the black sea of haredi demonstrators; nor were they much in evidence at the more colorful alternative show down the road.

Their absence can partly be explained by the conflicting messages that emanated from their leadership before the demonstrations.

Religious leaders such as Rabbis Avraham Shapiro, Mordechai Eliahu and Haim Druckman, favored attending the anti-Supreme Court demonstration, while political leaders, notably Transportation Minister Shaul Yahalom and chairman of the Knesset Law Committee, Hanan Porat, issued statements in defense of the legal system.

But while it was clear that the two did not support the vicious attacks on the Supreme Court, neither did they tell their followers to attend the alternative demonstration.

A notable exception was Meimad, the moderate religious Zionist movement, which not only issued statements in support of the courts, but demonstrated outside Bnei Akiva's Tel Aviv offices, to protest the involvement of the movement's spiritual leader, Druckman, in moving the religious Zionists further into the isolationist, ghetto world of the haredim.

But, as in the past, Meimad's rally attracted but a handful of supporters, once again showing that their moderate stance is supported by but a small minority of religious Zionists. If they run as a separate party in this year's elections, they will probably end up as they had back in 1988, with no mandates to show for their efforts.

Twenty years ago, the religious Zionists would have been the first address for any attempt at reconciliation between the haredi and the secular populations concerning issues of religion and state. But they have long abandoned this role as cultural mediators, becoming more right wing and more fundamentalist.

Yet despite their attempts to ingratiate themselves to the haredim, to demonstrate that they are no less "religious" (however they define this term) than the self-appointed "guardians of the faith," they find that they are neither here or there.

Numerically, the religious Zionists are stronger than ever. But they no longer can play *much of a role in* influencing Israeli society

They are no longer accepted by the secular as a legitimate partner for dialogue, because of their extreme policies, while they remain scorned by the haredi world for being Zionist, for pursuing secular education, and for continuing their involvement with the modern state.

The price the religious Zionists have paid for seeking acceptance where they do not belong has been substantial. Two of the three traditional fiefdoms of the National Religious Party, the Interior and Religious Affairs ministries, have been lost to Shas, and it is by no means certain that they will maintain their hold on the Education Ministry, even if they are part of the next government.

ONE would have thought that, after the justice minister, it would have been the education minister who would have most strongly defended the legal system and its judges. One would have thought that he would have had some kind of message for the more than one million youngsters under his charge.

But since Yitzhak Levy's own spiritual guru, former chief rabbi Eliahu, supported the haredi demonstration, the minister was clearly unable, or unprepared, to exercise his own mind and make a statement. It was a silence that spoke volumes.

Amongst themselves, the religious Zionists may feel strong, particularly since they have a large number of educational institutions through which they can socialize their next generation into blindly following their increasingly segregationist religious policies and politically extreme agenda.

But in terms of the society at large, they have been left out in the cold. The bridge they once formed between the secular and haredi has long since collapsed, and with it any prospects for real dialogue between two worlds, which are growing ever further apart.

The religious Zionists, whatever their other contributions to the state, bear a degree of responsibility for the collapse of this dialogue. In attempting to align themselves with one side, they have found themselves weakened.

One only had to look for them at the two demonstrations to see just how removed today's religious Zionists are from being able to grapple with the real problems facing contemporary Israel.

Numerically they are stronger than ever before, but in terms of their ability to influence and mediate between other sectors of Israeli society, they no longer have a role to play.

When silence isn't golden

AARON LERNER

In January 1998, a small group of ultra-secularists petitioned their country's High Court of Justice to outlaw ritual circumcision on the grounds that it is criminal assault. The court decided in February to consider the case and on September 3 held its first hearing.

What country's Supreme Court would even consider entertaining such a petition today? Russia? No. The US? Of course not.

"It is inconceivable that the only country in the world to prohibit circumcisions should be Israel."

So argued attorney Yehuda Shefer of the State Attorney's Office. But the High Court ignored Shefer's call to reject the petition out of hand. The next hearing is expected in April.

I'm not making this up. I wish I were. But case No. 5780/98 is a real case. Unfortunately, Meimad leader Rabbi Yehuda Amital was mistaken when he wrote over the weekend that the High Court only rules on secular issues.

Does that mean that the Supreme Court should be closed down? No. Just that there are legitimate grounds for criticizing it.

The handling of 5780/98 should lead to serious soul-searching by the leadership of the High Court. For, by even entertaining the petition, the court set a precedent that antisemitic regimes in the Diaspora may exploit in the future.

So here I am, on the pages of *The Jerusalem Post,* attacking the Supreme Court over 5780/98. Does that make me anti-democratic?

Obviously not.

I don't, frankly, buy into the position that the Israeli authorities should differentiate between a Reform conversion in Miami and Metullah, or that religious councils should bar Reform or Conservative members – but I respect the right of those who hold those views to express them.

The counterdemonstrators in Sacher Park this Sunday were not "defending democracy." They were simply exercising their democratic right to defend the Supreme Court (or rather, the most recent decisions made by the court relating to religion-state issues) while their haredi brothers exercised their democratic right to criticize those very same decisions.

When people feel free to express their views – whatever they happen to be – in peaceful public forums, supporters of democracy shouldn't shudder; they should celebrate

Both sides did it with fervor, using the strongest of language, with Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg terming the dispute a "war of life and death" and posters comparing Rabbi Ovadia Yosef with the ayatollahs of Iran.

But typically, while there were immediate calls for the criminal investigation of Yosef's strong words, no one saw fit to call for a similar investigation of Burg and Meretz MK Yossi Sarid's open call to "war" against the haredim.

WHILE I am not happy with the strong language used by either side's leadership, I see no place for silencing it. Such displays of bad taste and vulgarity should not be police matters.

I daresay that the free-wheeling peaceful dialogue that took place between the two groups after the rallies indicates that the rank and file of both groups seeks something quite different than "war."

When members of the body politic feel free to express their views – whatever they happen to be – in peaceful public forums, it is not a day for supporters of democracy to shudder, but rather to celebrate. The Sunday rallies were, as Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu justly termed them, a "day of honor for Israeli democracy."

And it would have been an even greater day for democracy if the leadership of the Israeli Left could have freed themselves from their Eastern European understanding of democracy as a "dictatorship of the majority" (when their majority wins, of course).

In a Western-style democracy, the public continues to speak its mind even after the ballots have been counted or the justices have ruled. The very process of this expression is not a threat to democracy, but rather an integral part of the democratic process.

This clash of Eastern European and Western views of democracy came to a head in Israel during the Rabin and Peres administrations, when great efforts were made to stifle opposition protests by imposing the Eastern European model of democracy. "You lost the elections – shut up and go home," was a frequent epithet thrown at Oslo protesters.

Leftist political leaders and academics alike spoke with glee of their efforts to permanently change the face of Israel on the strength of the sheerest of majorities.

The Eastern European model may be easier in the short run, but it cannot endure the pressures of change that Israel faces. Whoever wins this May, significant elements in Israeli society will find themselves dissatisfied with the results.

It is vital for the preservation of this diverse society that both the losers and winners in the coming elections are afforded free and open access to all avenues of expression.

Emperors with no clothes

ROBERT H. HELMICK

The stories emerging from Olympics headquarters in Switzerland recall the familiar fable about the emperor's new clothes. While the emperor is persuaded by his sycophants that he is resplendent in a gold suit, it takes a little boy to declare that the emperor is not wearing any clothes at all.

So it goes with the emperors of Olympic sport, who reassure each other that their credibility and authority remain intact while each new revelation of high-level corruption shows that their "clothes" actually are in shreds.

The recent refusal to give the International Olympic Committee the power to deal with the use of drugs in world sporting competition is only the latest sign of terminal weakness in the IOC and its long-entrenched president, Juan Antonio Samaranch. And a budding revolt within the IOC against Samaranch's plan to change the site-selection process indicates that his continued tenure is in doubt.

The question is not whether Samaranch and his close associates share the blame for the perks and payoffs that marred the choice of Salt Lake City for the winter games in 2002. Regardless of what the investigators discover, new leadership is required now to restore some of the lost glory of the Olympic movement before it is too late.

The best answer would be an early retirement for Samaranch at the age of 79 rather than allowing him to continue until his term expires in two years. In order to move quickly, someone of unquestioned integrity who is acceptable to the IOC must be appointed to take charge.

Princess Anne of Britain, an IOC member, has those qualifications.

She has been an Olympic competitor, heads the International Equestrian Federation and long has scorned the lavish gifts that were provided to IOC members by cities seeking to host winter or summer games.

Her selection as *interim* administrator would be greeted with nothing but applause. In the long term, the secrecy and lack of accountability that has characterized Olympic decision-making must be relegated to the dustbin of history. Eventually, with ample time for transition, the virtual life terms of IOC members must be limited and they must be elected by their national sports organizations rather than anointed by their peers. After all, the Olympics has become a multibillion-dollar business and it can no longer be run like a family concern that need not open its books to anyone.

IN many ways, the IOC has outlived its usefulness. It is amazing, for example, that the president of the US Olympic Committee is not a member of this powerful governing body. This is true although the overwhelming percentage of Olympic funds comes from the *United States.*

Therefore, USOC membership on the IOC should be a no-brainer.

Ever since the Los Angeles in 1984 proved that the Olympics could be a profitable venture, the competition among cities to host the world's best athletes has become intense and, in some cases, unprincipled. Reform of the selection process by putting more weight on a professional evaluation of a site's athletic facilities rather than more marginal factors would reduce the temptations offered to decision-makers.

Finally, former Olympians and corporate sponsors of the games must insist on immediate changes in the IOC's high command as well as far-reaching reforms in institutions that have shown little ability to prevent scandals from erupting in Salt Lake City and elsewhere.

Champions of world renown such as Mark Spitz and Carl Lewis could be recruited to spearhead cleansing changes in the governance of the games. Public-spirited corporations such as Coca-Cola and John Hancock/Insurance cannot sit on the sidelines while the reputation of the Olympics slips to the depths.

At their best, the Olympics demonstrate the limits of human performance and hold up the ideal of fair play. They help to unify a world too often divided by religious and ethnic conflict. But athletes – and the public – deserve a level playing field and confidence in the integrity of the games.

The Olympic emperors must relinquish their powers to avoid even more disgrace and clear the way for positive changes. As it is now, there is too little accountability, too little openness and far too much arrogance at the top to keep the status quo.

The writer was president of the US Olympic Committee and a member of the IOC from 1985-91.

(Los Angeles Times)

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هكذا من الأصل

Time-saving tips for busy moms

By Ruth Mason

Enlisting your children to help with household chores will give them a sense of autonomy – while saving you time and effort. (R. Nowitz)

Several weeks ago, a friend's husband took care of their three children for a week while his wife went on a trip to visit family in the US. He did an admirable job, and by the end of the week had had his eyes opened. His summation of the experience: "Running a household is like being a short-order cook, a maid.... and sometimes a zookeeper!"

Those of us who run households all year long know how true this is. He left out several other jobs: chauffeuse, referee, laundress, bather, class mother, homework-helper, listening ear, secretary, dresser, story-reader, imparter of values, personal and family shopper, and more.

All of us need time-saving tips. You can get some from time-management experts who write books, but what we offer you here are tips for the real experts – mothers themselves.

Following is a list of time-saving tips from moms who are out there on the front lines, who have tried them and say they work.

• Every few months, Shifra, an organizational consultant, buys a dozen gift-wrapped presents for her four-year-old to take to the birthday parties of anyone except very close friends.

• When her children were younger and she was still cooking a lot, Batya, an educator, would make twice as much schnitzel, rice, etc. and freeze half. This way, she says, you save on preparation and clean-up time.

• Still on the cooking front, Liz, an artist, cooks huge pots of matza-ball soup and other delicacies and freezes them in meal-size portions.

• Ruth, a writer and editor, does one big grocery shopping a month, buying staples like sugar, flour, juice concentrate, rice, etc. at a discount supermarket. She fills in as necessary in her neighborhood stores. She also bathes her children, ages three, six and seven together. When they were younger, one good-night story served them all.

• Shelly, a nurse, has her kids, the youngest of whom is 12, do their own laundry. "I bought them each a cool hamper and they *love* the autonomy. They each do one load of darks and whites per week," she says. Her kids also take turns making the family dinner one night a week.

• Shari, an anthropologist, also got tired of doing laundry for a family of five so she decided that "everyone except two-year-old Shoshana was now responsible for his or her own laundry. My seven- and 10-year-olds have quickly gotten into the groove and, much to my surprise, are very competent at folding clothes. Benny (her husband) does his own pile and I now only take on my clothes and the baby's.

"Benny and I take turns with towels and sheets. Everyone has their own laundry basket which they eventually fill with clothes first scattered on the floor. It seems to be working and it's really a big relief!"

• Christina, a filmmaker, has 10-year-old Bowen sit for himself when she has to be out at an evening meeting and her 15-year-old daughter, Georgia, is home but they are not getting along. "This saves hiring a babysitter and its saves the grief of Georgia sitting for him. Bowen and I put together a check list of what he must do and when (8 p.m. bath; 8:15 juice and teeth brushing; 8:30 read; 9 p.m. lights out) and then I pay him a small amount of money to take care of himself.

"Georgia always checks on him at 9 and says goodnight to him, but he is responsible for doing all his night-time duties. This has worked really well for nights that I am not out too long. Georgia gets her homework done and they don't argue. Bowen feels very grown-up. It saves a lot of grief and some money for me."

• Susan, a lawyer, tends to do a lot of research – e.g. the list price for selling her car – over the Internet. When she peels garlic, which she and her family use a lot, she peels extra and puts it in the refrigerator for the next few meals. (Smashing the cloves lightly will make them much easier to peel.)

• Wendy, a teacher and writer, has four mail baskets on a table near the entrance of her house – one for her, one for her husband, one for her daughters and one for junk mail. "This way the mail gets sorted immediately by whoever takes it out of the mail box instead of lying around in various piles or stacks."

Wendy also addresses thank-you note envelopes at the same time as she sends out invitation to a *simha*. "That way you don't have to look up the addresses twice and you're down the thank-you note path a little sooner," she says.

And on a lighter note, Wendy says she asked her 12-year-old daughter and her friend for their ideas and they both said the same thing: "Do whatever your child wants all the time and you never have to spend time arguing!"

• My friend Sharone, a dancer, taught me to sit down on Saturday nights with my calendar and plan my week. On good weeks, I also look at my to-do list and coordinate it with my schedule. For example, if I have to go downtown for a doctor's appointment, I'll also go to the post office and a downtown store I've been meaning to get to.

In the food department, I make a lot of salad dressing and store it in a jar in the refrigerator. I also have a weekly dinner list with the main course posted on the fridge, e.g. Sundays – rice and beans; Mondays – salmon patties. That way I don't have to spend time thinking and planning and I always know what I'll need so I can stock up in advance.

If you have an idea that doesn't appear here that has worked for you, please share it with other readers by sending it to the Parenting column, Jerusalem Post, P.O. Box 81, Jerusalem 91000 or e-mail to: ruthmason@compuserve.com

To get loved, love yourself first

'Romance coach' Leslie Karsner tells **Susanne Lazanov** about putting passion into one's life

With a satisfying marketing career and an interest in reading, poetry and bicycling, Chris Kosmides considers himself a pretty accomplished guy.

"But my love life sucks, to put it bluntly," says the 32-year-old from Baltimore. "I never seem to meet the right kind of person, and it appears that I keep making the same mistakes over and over. I want to break away from whatever it is that I keep falling into."

Portrait photographer Julie Matricianni, 32, was immersed in her business and two young children when reality intruded: Her seven-year marriage was on the brink of dissolving. Says Matricianni, also of Baltimore: "I remember thinking, 'What a bummer. With all the other things in life I have to work at, now I have to work at my marriage, too.'"

It would seem that Kosmides and Matricianni needed different kinds of help to turn their lives around, yet both consulted the same person: Leslie Karsner – the romance coach.

A romance coach, says Karsner, focuses on one's enthusiasm for life.

"Romance coaching is not coaching on a love affair. Instead, it is about romance with yourself, a passion for life, and getting the flame burning again," says the personal development consultant based in Falls Church, Va., a Washington, DC, suburb.

Karsner likens each area of one's life to a candle.

"You ignite the flame of each candle, but sometimes the flame burns out in one or more areas," she says. "I coach people on which candles should be burning and how brightly."

When she coached primarily business clients, Karsner found that their personal issues kept creeping in.

"Clients wanted to enhance their personal relationships and create or bring back romance. My coaching encourages self-awareness and prepares people for romance."

And she says that anyone open to self-examination, committed to being positive, and enthusiastic about the potential for finding love and romance is an ideal coaching candidate – whether single, involved or married.

"COACHING is about shifts in thoughts, perspective and actions, not changing who you are," says Karsner. "Creating an openness for romance to blossom is about making space within your heart and thoughts and being open to the possibilities."

Karsner does not guarantee her clients will find or retain a mate.

"The focus is on getting people to a place where they are ready for romance, settled with old relationships, thoughts and feelings."

And she finds that just as many men as women are looking for romance – with men often saying they are involved in unwanted relationships.

"Somehow, they are attracting these," she said. "They need to pay more attention to the red flags."

Kosmides, the marketing professional, recalls, "When I met women and sensed from the beginning that because of some negative quality they weren't what I was looking for, I'd convince myself that it wouldn't matter in terms of our relationship.... Then, six months down the line, I would see that this quality really did spill over.

"Now I immediately address who a woman is. I know that if I act a certain way, it will bring a certain response. Coaching has helped me take an active rather than reactive role," he says.

Matricianni, like Kosmides, equates romance coaching with positive changes.

"When you go through getting married and having kids, life can get really difficult and romance begins to die," she says. "I thought the romance was still there in our marriage, but I've learned I really have to work at keeping it alive."

Matricianni at first blamed her husband. She was cold and distant and didn't acknowledge his attempts at kindness.

"It used to be that I never told my husband anything, but once things starting turning around I told him about the coaching, and he was very supportive.

"I was feeling so dependent and controlled," Matricianni said. "But now, with my growing business, I have a part of my life that is separate, and when I am happier, my husband and children are happier, too.

"Through coaching, I've learned that romance means putting passion into your life. It's taking care of yourself, feeling good about yourself, having a career, being well-rounded."

IN a marriage, Karsner says, it's hard for one partner to let go of an old pattern and start a new one.

"Partners get into tit-for-tat, and someone has to stop it," she said.

She reminds couples to avoid "below the belt" issues, and advises taking the necessary action to bring romance back – and doing so without expectations.

"If it doesn't work the first time, try again," says Karsner. "And then keep trying."

With clients scattered across the country, Karsner coaches mostly by phone.

"Many people find it easier to talk about personal matters while staring off into space, rather than sitting face to face," she said.

In a series of three 45-minute sessions a month, conducted over several months, Karsner leads her clients through what she calls the seven-stage Romance Factor.

She emphasizes returning the focus to the self. While it sounds selfish, she says, it's only through increased self-awareness that people can get in touch with their own deficiencies, voids, desires and passions.

"If I ask people to reflect on their relationships and to pull from them either the good or the bad, people who lack romance tend to focus on what's wrong with them and think that society views them as inadequate," she says.

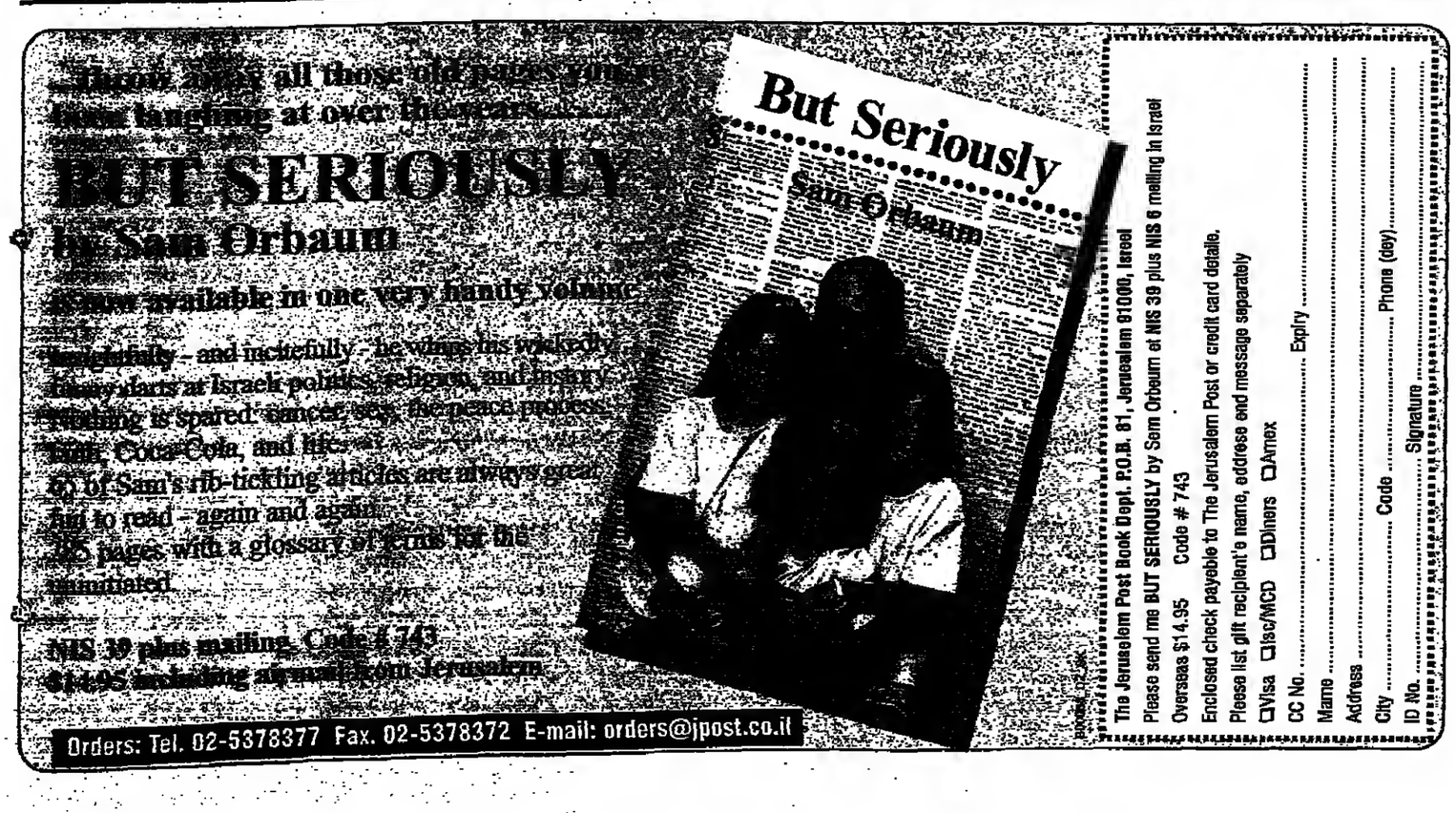
"I want people to get to a place where they love who they are, and not feel unsuccessful because they aren't in a relationship."

Karsner says she imbues her own life with a zest for living.

"I romance myself by loving who I am and taking the best care of my body and mind," she says. "I'm content, and people get my energy when they are around me.

"Being excited about life in general is an attractive quality that creates a clear path for romance to travel on," she says. "Romance can flourish when baggage is settled, and one feels complete and ready to move on."

(The Washington Post)



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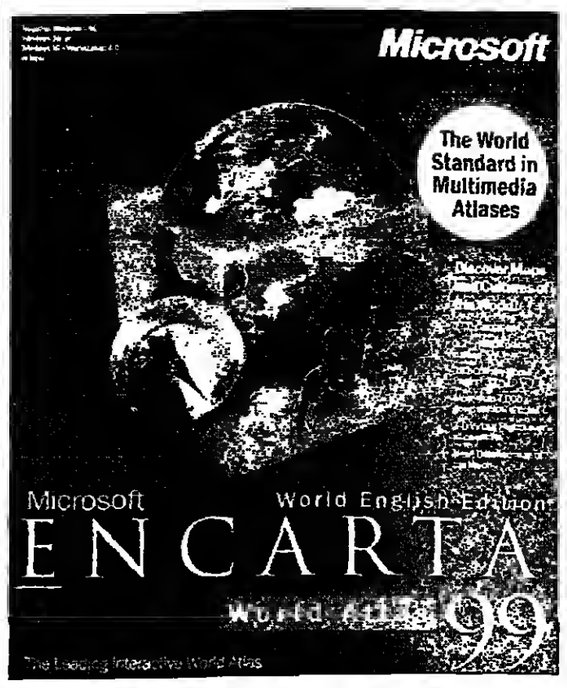


You don't have to be Bill Gates

By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

Microsoft Encarta World Atlas 99, a set of two CD-ROMs in English, produced by Microsoft, marketed by Bug Multisystem, requires Windows 95 and up and Pentium computer, for all ages. NIS 269

Rating: ★★★★★

When Microsoft's Bill Gates and his wife, Melinda, go globetrotting, they undoubtedly carry this superb program on their laptop computer to find their way around, measure distances and remember their favorite places. But you don't have to be the world's richest businessman to have this piece of software: You can be any English speaker – pupil or adult – who treasures outstanding digital reference works and is interested in the world.

It's not a conventional printed atlas with only statistics, graphs and maps. It's more like a multimedia encyclopedia devoted to the planet Earth.

Users can focus on specific subjects they want to explore. Or, looking for nothing in particular, they can float along, like a rowboat among the waves of a gentle sea – going where it takes them, from one piece of text, map, photograph, video or sound clip to another.

Some 1.2 million places on the globe are mentioned, along with detailed, interactive maps – 18 different types – of 123 world cities; thousands of hypertext links to other parts of the program; 12,500 clickable links to relevant Web sites (if you're connected to the Internet); 3,000 color photographs and illustrations; 350 music segments; and virtual flights over the entire globe from the height of a low-flying airplane.

The first disk is mostly for installation of the 60-megabyte setup program; the rest of that CD-ROM contains an excellent research organizer that takes users step by step, teaching them how to look and search for written and graphic material, and integrate it into a high-quality report for school or professional services.

The other CD-ROM contains the atlas so, fortunately, one doesn't have to constantly switch disks when using the program for hours at a time.

Surprisingly, no printed user's manual comes in the box, but there's really no need for one, since one click takes you on a guided tour of the program. Also welcome is the disk's ability to explain, in a sentence or two of text, what's included within each item on the screen: just put the cursor on it, even without clicking, and a window automatically opens up to describe the contents.

For research, the most commonly used feature is the "Find" search engine that permanently appears on the upper left-hand corner of the screen. Just key in a word or words and you'll get any mention of it in the whole disk.

If you key in "Israel," for example, sub-topics automatically appear below the word, giving you information on cities, images, global themes, animals, statistics, music and videos. There is an encyclopedic amount of text, plus images, films and sounds, relating to each country.

Words in the text that are printed in green are hyperlinks to related material elsewhere in the disk; blue words are defined in a glossary window; and beige words are foreign terms that when clicked are pronounced by a native of that country (it was fun to hear an Israeli perfectly sound out *falafel*, *ulpan* and *Yom Kippur*).

At the top of the screen, under "Tools," is a mechanism to automatically measure distances from one spot on the globe to another, plus a device that states the longitude and latitude of any spot (great for astrologers). You can also compare, side by side, any country or region with any other one, seeing their statistics, geography, society, mountains, rivers and other geographical features.

Every country is also ranked according to its place in world statistics. For example, Israel is the 158th lowest in infant mortality, with eight deaths per 1,000 live births, and 24th highest ($16,590 per capita) when its gross domestic product is compared to that of other countries.

If you need to create a customized map for a report or school assignment, click the "Cartographer" feature to turn on and off map details such as small cities or railways. An extensive bibliography on many topics is also at your fingertips. You can easily access any part of the world for each segment of the program, as you can drag a globe in any direction to focus on a specific section. Although the atlas concentrates on our own planet, it even has a graphic section about the moon that uses satellite and space-shuttle photos to depict geographical regions on both sides of the heavenly body.

A major section, called "Global Themes," supplies masses of clearly written text on mapping the world (how to read maps, global positioning satellites, remote servers); the physical world (earthquake, volcano, season, the atmosphere); the living world (tropical forest, dry forest, tundra, savannah); the world of people (religion, culture, music, land use, trade, urbanization); and environmental challenges (soil erosion, desertification, overfishing, water pollution).

Finally, try the "Name That Place" game. This entertaining feature poses hundreds of multiple-choice questions at any of five levels of difficulty: at the easiest level, you have to name countries shown on the map, while in the hardest ones, you have to recognize individual cities.

Apchee, a CD-ROM in Hebrew, by Scops/Makhsheve, requires Windows 95 and up, for ages six to nine. NIS 169

Rating: ★☆☆☆☆

THE serenity of the planet Melodia is disturbed suddenly by an evil magician named Kametmonda, who puts residents into a spell that makes them sneeze incessantly (hence the Hebrew title *Apchee*). Your task is to help the exotic baobab tree to grow – by carrying out assignments – and eliminate the nasty spell.

The theme of this disk is learning about the environment and a variety of civilizations around the world.

But these aims are pretentious – and just an excuse for a game. The disk doesn't teach much or do much more than test eye-hand coordination, and it goes so slowly that a user might want to call Kametmonda back and surrender.

If you have a spare NIS 169, buy a few children's books instead.

Gardener's Corner

Conifers: Lords of the garden

By Batsheva Mink

Most of us know a conifer when we see one, and yet, surprisingly, there is not one characteristic that can be completely relied upon to tell you if you are right.

The hallmark of conifers is that they usually bear cones. Yet how many of us would suspect a juniper berry of being a conifer?

Conifers are nearly always evergreen, yet larch and swamp cypress lose their leaves in autumn.

Of course leaf shape is a good guide, as nearly all have needle-like or scale-like leaves, but to add to the confusion the ginkgo tree (*Ginkgo biloba*) has fan-shaped leaves.

At the Jerusalem Botanical Garden there is a magnificent rare Chinese dawn redwood tree (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*). Its leaves turn a pinkish amber during late autumn, and the tree is completely bare of leaves from December to spring.

Conifers are the world's largest plants, and grow throughout the world, except for Antarctica, although they prefer temperate climate zones.

Conifers first appeared about 345 million years ago. In fact, fossilized evidence shows that the ginkgo tree has the same-shaped leaves today as it did more than 200 million years ago.

There is quite a gap between the maximum heights of broad-leaf trees, which can grow up to 65 meters, and conifers, which can grow up to 120 meters.

Although all conifers are trees, their heights vary from one extreme to the other. The giant redwoods (*Sequoia sempervirens*) of California are known to top 100 meters, while the smallest conifers of New Zealand (*Dacrydium laxifolium*) in maturity reach only 8 centimeters in height.

They also hold the world's record in age. It is not unusual for a conifer to top the 1,000-year mark. One pine in California (*Pinus aristata*) is estimated to be almost 5,000 years old.

THE conifer is the garden plant par excellence, and this has always been recognized in European gardening. In ancient Rome, for example, there were tree barbers to clip the garden cypresses, and in the 16th century, the newly discovered white pines from Canada were grown in the gardens of France.

North America has played a vital role in the conifer story. It was the

Victorian plant hunters like David Douglas, son of a stonemason from Scone in Perthshire, Scotland, who introduced many new varieties of conifers into Europe.

Douglas was a self-taught botanist who provided the raw material for today's range of garden varieties. There are many trees that bear his name, including the famous Douglas fir.

The prime feature of the conifer is its permanence. To the new garden it gives an immediate touch of maturity, privacy, and it is very often used as a windbreak. Most conifers remain in leaf all year round, and some have variegated leaf colors.

The conifer is a fine piece of garden architecture and is available in many shapes. Most conifers are column-like or pyramid-shaped; however, many spreading varieties are available.

It is very difficult to obtain genuine dwarf growing conifers in Israel. Available conifers are either fast- or slow-growing. Always check the anticipated height of any conifer before you buy it. Mighty trees like the cedars and redwoods can be admired in large gardens, parks and botanical gardens, but they have no place in the average-size plot.

Some of the larger types are slow growing, so they can be planted in a limited space as permanent shrubs or small trees.

THE advantages of planting conifers are many. Following planting there is little aftercare. There is no spraying, staking, deadheading or leaf raking.

Pruning is not required, at least during the first 10 years of growth.

Conifers are not generally fussy as to soil requirements and many, particularly the dwarf forms, can be grown in quite thin, impoverished soil.

Planted as a hedge, they offer plenty of privacy. However, certain kinds do not qualify for this treatment, and some confers will do much better than others in such conditions.

The siting of conifers is very important. They should be in full sun to obtain the best color. The golden varieties are best kept out of very drafty or exposed positions.

Junipers are particularly adaptable, and will survive and prosper where many other kinds will not. They are one of the most useful and worthy group of conifers, varying in habit and color. They are extremely hardy and withstand exposed positions, which is the reason they are so widely grown in the US. Some are prostrate and semi-prostrate, and are very useful for ground cover.

Junipers have the added advantage of doing well on most soils, and stand draft better than most conifers.

Conifers come in many colors: green, yellow, gold and bi-colored, with the blues being the most expensive.

For the smaller garden try Table-Top Blue (*Juniperus scopulorum*), an attractive spreading shrub with thin branches and small, silver-blue leaves.

YOU cannot do better than make a hedge from evergreen conifers. They should be planted much the same as any other conifer, at a spacing of 70-95 cm. apart. Use a line to keep them straight.

Choose a variety according to how high you want your hedge.

One of the best is *Thuja plicata*: it establishes itself in a wide variety of soils and grows quickly.

For a lower hedge it is better to choose something slower growing such as the common yew (*Taxus baccata*) which may take many years to reach 2 meters. Unlike conventional hedges, yews only need to be clipped once a year. They also tolerate a considerable amount of shade.

Position:

Full sun or partial shade suits most conifers. Whereas golden-foliage varieties should be in full sun to retain their color, certain varieties tend to get winter burn or scorch in strong sunshine. Keep the golden-foliage variety out of drafty or exposed positions.

Soil preparation:

Dig out the soil to a depth of at least 30 cms. Carefully mix in a little compost. Conifers like a well-drained soil, so make sure it is well dug over. On poor soils an annual dressing of compost or a general fertilizer improves growth and color.

Watering:

Once conifers are left to dry out, you may notice them turning brown. At this stage it is usually too late to do anything about it. Avoid letting them dry out, especially during the early years.

Pruning:

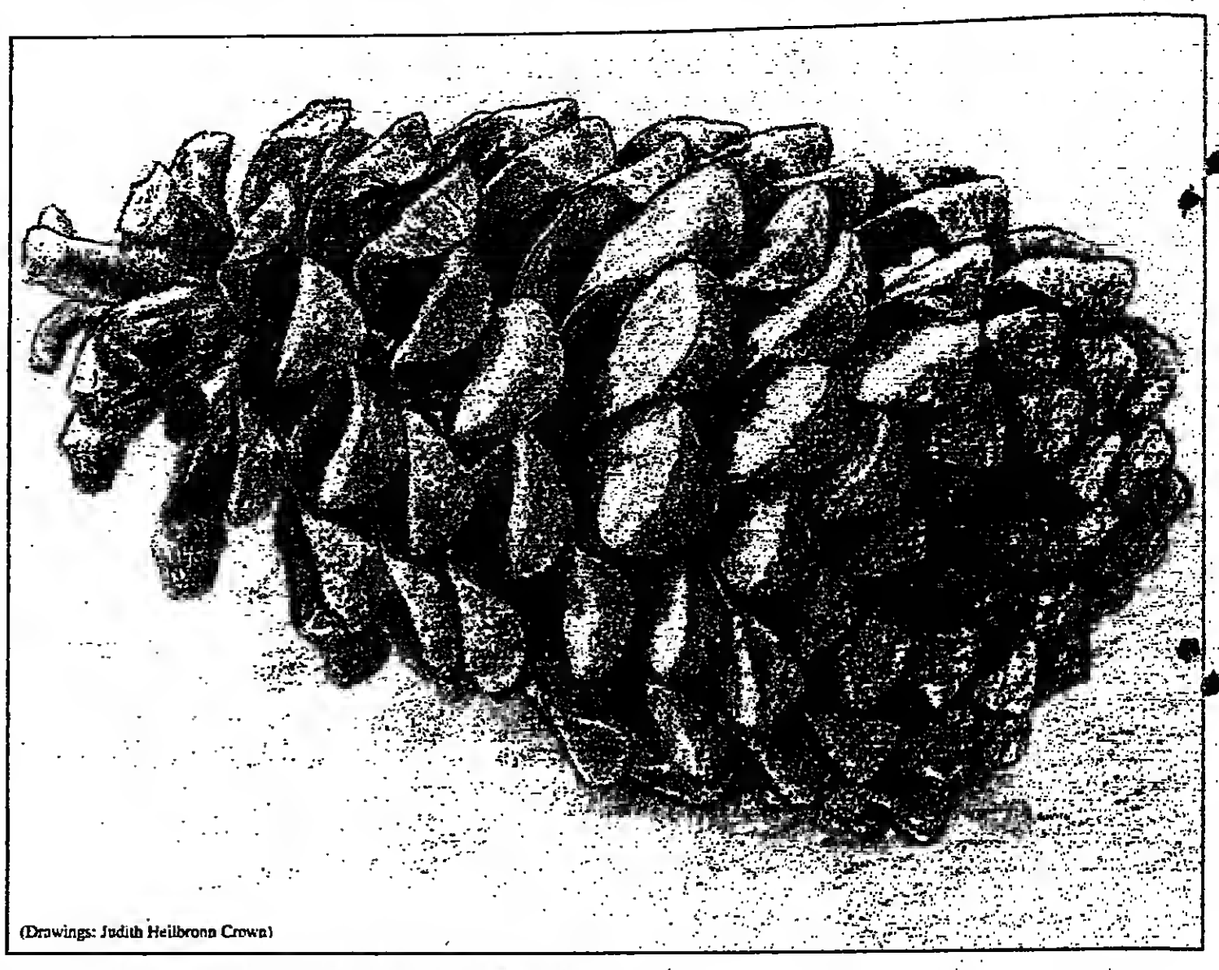
Pruning may be necessary to improve shape.

Pests and diseases:

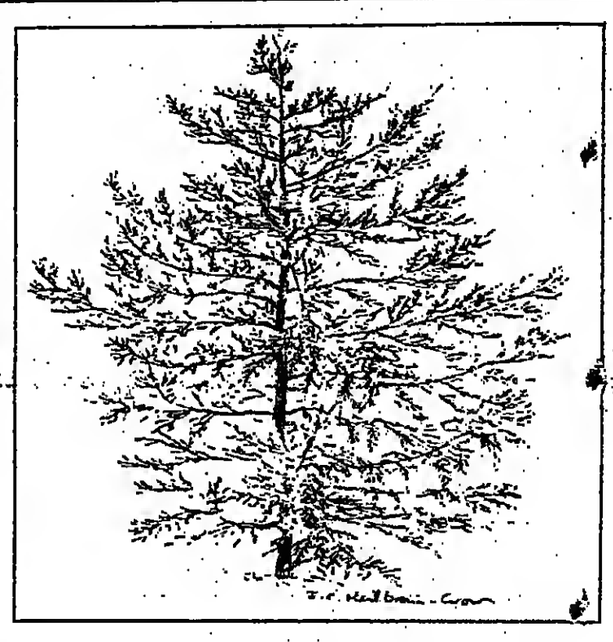
Spider mites can attack conifers during late spring and early summer. Usually a close check from time to time will be all that is necessary, but it is nonetheless worth doing. These insects can suck at the fresh shoots of the plants and cause the needles to drop off. Spider mites are usually red in color and barely visible to the naked eye. A spray over the affected plants with an insecticide, and again after two weeks, should remedy this.

Batsheva Mink is a curator of the Jerusalem Botanical Gardens, Givat Ram.

Your gardening questions and comments are welcome. Contact Batsheva Mink, POB 3943, Jerusalem 91039.



(Drawings: Judith Heilbronn Crown)



TIP OF THE WEEK

Conifers can be clipped to make interesting shapes in the garden. An inexpensive way to grow conifers would be to raise them from seed.

Juniper seeds germinate easily in gentle warmth. The seeds are usually available in supermarkets.

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Heads 'N' Tails

By D'vora Ben Shaul

Be firm but gentle with kittens and pups

"How do you punish a kitten if it misbehaves?" a reader asks.

The answer is simple – you don't! Kittens and puppies need to be taught what is unacceptable, but this teaching does not involve punishment.

If a kitten insists on scratching you while playing, put your hand over its paws making it retract its claws, and say a firm "No!"

If the kitten doesn't stop, blow a puff of air in its face and repeat the command. This is something kittens dislike and it serves to get their attention and convince them that you are serious; but it is not punishment.

If a kitten is particularly adamant about maintaining the habit, try bissing at it. This is a warning it will note, because that's just what its mother would do.

In the case of puppies, I usually take a lightly rolled newspaper, stand near the misbehaving puppy, and, while giving the "No" command, strike a sharp blow with the rolled newspaper on my *own* leg.

The noise impresses the pup, and, again, gets its attention. But never, never strike the puppy (or the kitten).

After you have smacked your leg with the paper and said a sharp "No" a few times, the puppy will get the point. From then on, it is usually only necessary to shake the newspaper at it.

If necessary, you can grasp the skin of the scruff of its neck and give a shake – not the puppy, just the neck skin. This, again, is exactly what its own mother would do to get a point across.

Punishing a puppy or a kitten is extremely counterproductive. It simply frightens them, and makes them even less likely to concentrate or understand what you want.

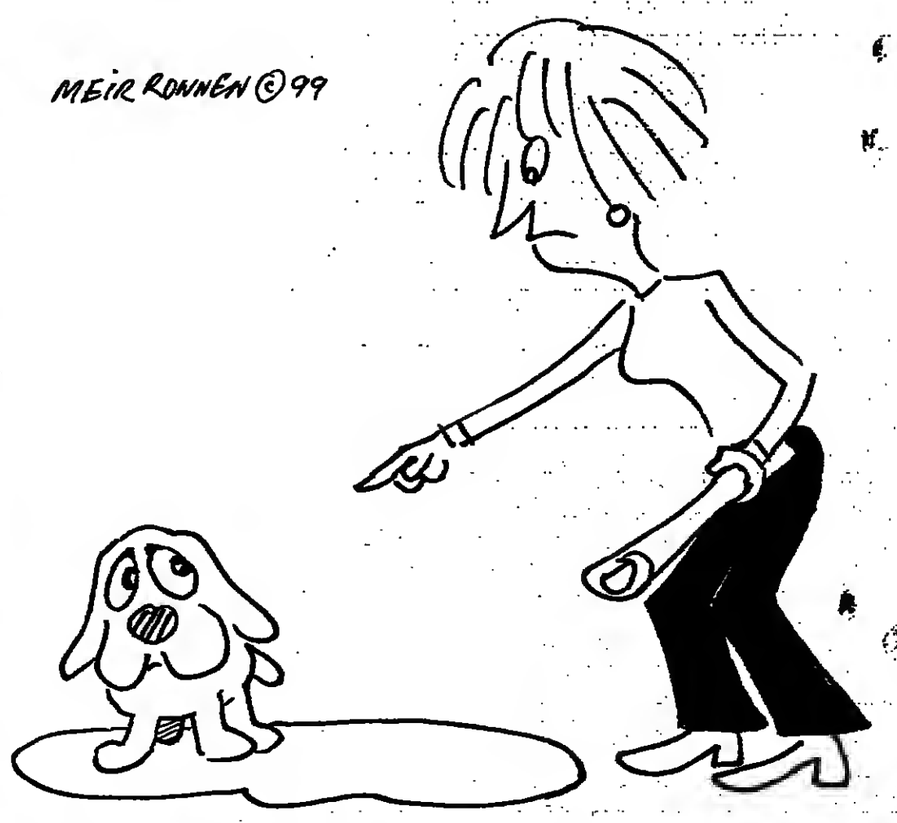
Fear, in fact, can cause puppies and kittens to develop habits that are very hard to correct. They need firmness over certain things – but always with a gentle touch.

It is also very important to remember that this is a baby animal. You wouldn't punish a two-year-old for touching or exploring a new object, even if the toddler tried to put it in its mouth; you would gently take the object away. You should do the same with a baby animal.

Curiosity is a characteristic of intelligent animals, and kittens and puppies are simply furry balls of curiosity. Every new thing is to be explored, touched, smelled and tasted. Any animal that didn't react to new stimuli in this manner wouldn't be worth having as a companion.

So be patient, and know that most so-called misbehavior will disappear as the animal becomes familiar with its surroundings, confronts more and more new situations and, in short, starts to grow up.

Older dogs and cats? I don't believe in punishing them, either. But we will deal with that in another article.



هكذا من الأصل

Maazel: Fiddler at the IPO

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

After a break of some 30 years, conductor Lorin Maazel will play his violin again with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra. Then he played Mozart. This time he will play his own concerto, composed in 1977.

Recalling that earlier date, Maazel reminisces that "Nathan Milstein was in Israel at the time and he was irritated by the idea. So he sat down at the center of the first row with his hands crossed, looking angry. It was not nice of him but he didn't try to be nice."

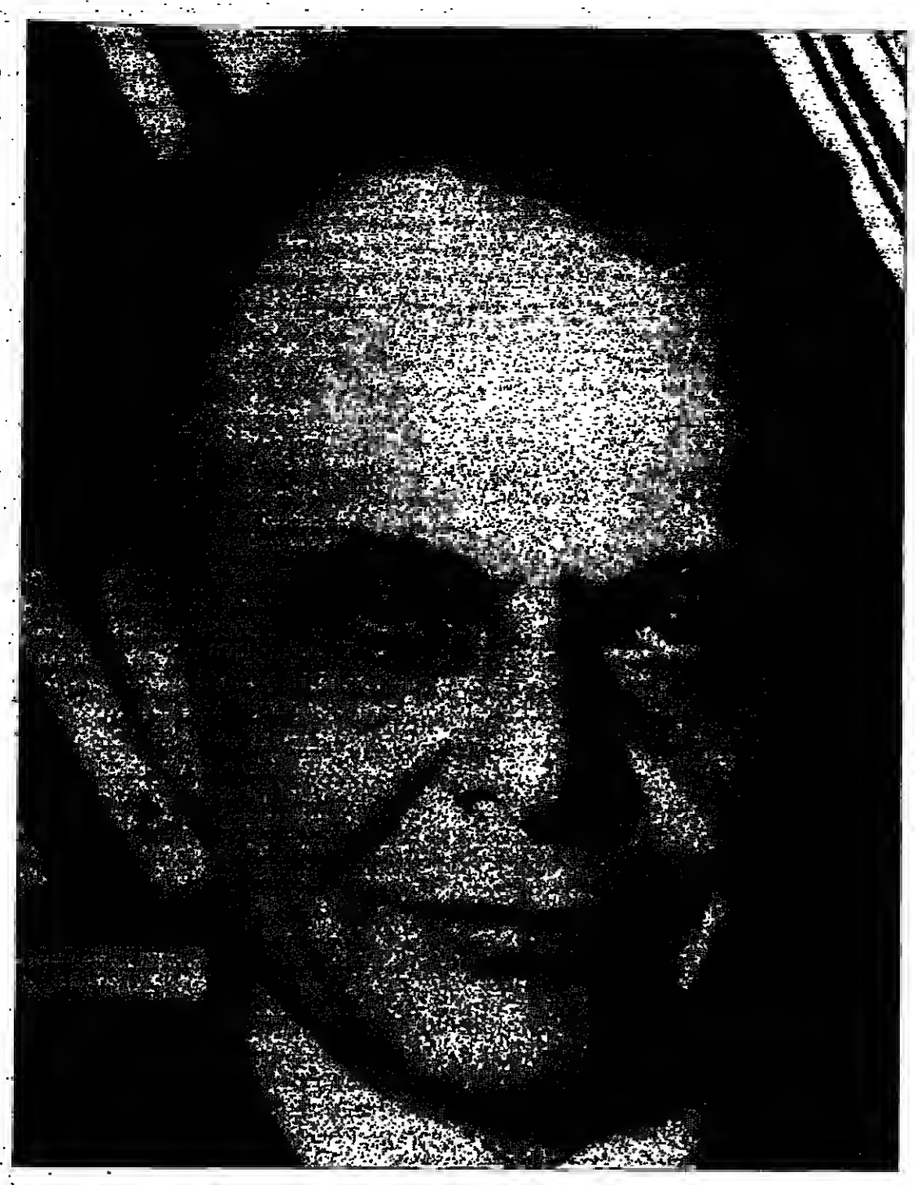
Maazel is back in Israel to lead the IPO in Mahler's Fourth Symphony. His own concerto is in the first half of the program, and he explains that he is playing it almost by default.

"I wrote this concerto for a violinist whose name I cannot disclose at the moment," he says. "He did not play it at the premiere or ever since and so I decided to play it myself. Actually this concerto and my new Stradivarius [violin] have forced me to practice more than I would have otherwise, and I must say that now I'm enjoying playing it."

The concerto, he says, is very much himself. "It's tongue-in-cheek, meditative, colorful and aggressive all in one, just like me. The audience might be puzzled at first but then they get used to the sound and react quite enthusiastically. It's a romantic piece in the sense that there is a theme at the end which is somber and represents the soul of the violin having come to rest after being violently assaulted by every instrument in the orchestra."

Maazel admits that his violin playing is of a different era; his is an old-school approach to playing, reminiscent of the '50s.

Maazel's violin is the celebrated 1722 Artot Strad, which he bought some four years ago. He is a member of an international foundation which buys instruments and loans them to young musicians, but the Artot was too expensive for that year's budget.



Lorin Maazel will retire his violin 'when I get faded on stage.'

"I couldn't face the idea that some banker would buy it," Maazel confesses, "so I went along and bought it myself."

These days life is split between the family's farm in Virginia, and Munich where Maazel is music director of the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra. That contract ends next year and "I don't have a clue about what I'll do yet."

Currently he tries to play and compose as much as he can, because he figures that "I have about two to five years more" of playing well. "I'll never go on stage when I get faded like many musicians who continue to play badly, and then they make their enemies happy and their friends sad. I would not do this to my friends or my enemies."

Having breakfast with his three school-age children means that Maazel, 69, gets up at 5 a.m to practice, which is "productive but also tiring."

Yawning after two rehearsals with the IPO, Maazel talks about his life, his art and the role music plays in both. But he says, "sometimes I just quit and then I play tennis and take the kids to the flea market where they can ride ponies and enjoy themselves. They really love it."

Asked to compare the IPO to other first-class international orchestras he works with, Maazel is full of compliments, saying "They love what they are doing and they play their hearts out. I love that, it touches my heart."

The IPO has not suggested its participation next year in the "Maazel at 70" celebrations which will take place with the Berlin, Vienna and New York Philharmonics, the London Symphony, and leading orchestras in Paris, Chicago and Amsterdam.

"I am really looking forward to it and maybe it can happen here too."

Maazel enjoys every minute of his very active life. "Look, many people my age play golf by now. I love being active."

Retirement? "Look, my dad just turned 96 and he's in fine shape. He beat me in chess the other day and I'm a very good player myself."

Lorin Maazel plays his violin concerto with the IPO tonight at the Jerusalem International Convention Center and tomorrow at the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv.

The grass is *always* greener

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

In Ravid Davara's new play *The Grass Is Greener*, ("Hasirpad Shel Hashachen") which opens this Saturday at the Habimah National Theater, three couples try to examine the essence of their lives.

"You can't write today without dealing with violence," says Davara, 28, whose won first prize at Theaternetto for his play *Josephine*, and the Young Artists Prize at Acre for *And Now for the Candles*.

"I try to describe a situation of hell and loneliness within the duality of married couples. I describe three moments which take this duality to extremes they cannot run away from."

The three dysfunctional couples, none of whom have names, live in the same building. "The couple on the ground floor (Orna Banai, Dov Navon), live violently – the result of their inability to communicate or to express their emotions intimately.

"The second couple (Tehiya Danon, Dudu Ben Zeev), is a young man and an older woman.

Orna Rothberg lives on the third floor in 'The Grass is Greener.'

She wants a child and he punishes her with total silence when he discovers that she betrayed him.

The third couple (Orna Rothberg, Shlomo Tarshish), belabor each other verbally – the result of trauma from an accident in which the woman was driving drunk. Their child was killed and the husband became crippled."

The first act of the play focuses on each couple individually, but in the second act "the couple from the ground floor hosts the other two couples."

Davara says that writing about the nice moments in life "is less interesting, but I deal with these horrible moments and the pain in a humorous way. It's a comic-tragic play which reaches the absurd and the grotesque alike."

Davara admits a similarity between her play and the current British hit at Habimah, Patrick Marber's *Closer*. But she says, "Although there is violence in both, the alienation in *Closer* is stronger. The relationships in my play are more tender and they all have a very clear inner logic."

Her plays, Davara argues, are never autobiographical, although "they are always personal. When I hear people speak in the street I immediately translate it into a scene in a play. The people who stand in front of us day in and day out are a mirror through which we can see ourselves."

Despite the very tough moments in her play, Davara insists that "I don't deal with despair but with pain. The play ends with hope, each story ends with a child. It is not a happy-end solution but the play does offer hope. It says that if we stop for a second and admit that there is something wrong in our life, we just might be able to change something."

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Wagner shows his fey side

CLASSICAL MUSIC

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Richard Wagner's *Die Feen* ("The Fairies") is rarely performed and even less often recorded. It is a mythological tale presented on a grand scale, with an Italian influence, and it paves the way to the first two mature operas of the composer, *Der Fliegende Holländer* and *Lohengrin*. The new live recording of *Die Feen* by Gabor Otvos and the orchestra and chorus of the Teatro Comunale di Cagliari (Dynamic CDS 217/1-3) is more than impressive.

The sound is exemplary, the cast very good – even if not well known – and the overall feel of this close-to-four-hours of music is of a dedicated performance of an opera that Wagner buffs will want to know. General opera lovers will also enjoy it for its non-Wagner aspects.

More contemporary operas can be savored from new discs on the Russian Melodia label.

Conducted by Alexander Lazarev in 1990, the Bolshoi version of Prokofiev's fiery drama, *Betrothal in a Monastery* (Melodia 74321 60318 2) – based on Sheridan's *The Duenna* – is quite impressive even if it lacks the spectacular energy and inner fire one encounters in Valery Gergiev's recording of the same opera a few years ago.

Melodia has also issued two short Shostakovich operas in one set (Melodia 74321 60319 2), both recorded in the '70s with Gennady Rozhdestvensky. The unfinished *The Gamblers* and *The Nose*, based on works of Gogol, are mini masterpieces that here enjoy extraordinary performances. The Russian cast delves deep into the drama that unfolds in the contemporary score.

The long-awaited opera disc *Samson et Dalila*, conducted by French opera specialist Colin Davis and his London Symphony Orchestra with Jose Cura and Olga Borodina in the title roles (Erato 3984-24756-2), is a sensuous recording that delivers the goods, but not entirely. Davis is at his best here and his LSO sings with love, passion and elan as he raises his baton. There is captivating magic in the air whenever the orchestra has a "solo" moment in the opera. Cura is a heroic young Samson who presents the power and finesse of the role in a most engaging way. His is one of the finest Samsons ever recorded on disc.

Alas, his partner leaves a lot to be desired. Olga Borodina simply cannot rise to the occasion. She has all the right notes but she lacks the seductive quality necessary for this role and her Dalila is remote, detached and quite cold. Rather than the great seductress who manages to trap Samson, she is more an invisible phantom at the back of his mind. This shows, above all, in the very passionate and dramatic second act.

THOSE looking for real passionate sensuality should delve deep into the 1944 recording of *Der Rosenkavalier* (Dante LYSO 19/21) conducted by the incomparable Clemens Krauss, especially the opening scene with Viorica Ursuleac and Georgine von Millinkovic as the awakening young lovers. Under Krauss's delicate but penetrating baton, the loving passion of the opera emerges clearly from the very first bars and continues on magically. Very few, if any, of the more modern versions of this opera capture the essence of the music and its story in such a tender and poetic way.

Going back in time, the new recording of Cavalli's mythological drama, *La Didone* (DHM 05472 77354 2), with Thomas Hengelbrock leading the Balthasar Neumann Ensemble is a masterpiece of baroque performance with a first-rate cast headed by Yvonne Kenny, Laurence Dale and Judith Howarth. This is a fresh, vibrant and exciting recording of a baroque gem very few are even aware of.

Four of today's leading opera stars have recently recorded two new albums on Decca and the result is mixed. *Cecilia & Bryn* (Decca 458 928-2) features Cecilia Bartoli and Bryn Terfel at their very best in selections from Mozart operas. Their version of "La ci darem la mano" from *Don Giovanni* is hypnotizing and their Papageno-Papagena duet simply charming. Selections from Rossini and Donizetti showcase the two at their comic and vocal best.

Much more disappointing is *Prelude to a Kiss* (Decca 460 793-2), on the whole a rather imbalanced affair with Daniel Barenboim (yes, he too can go wrong) conducting his Chicago Symphony Orchestra with Placido Domingo and Renee Fleming. They sing selections from *West Side Story*, *Otello*, Duke Ellington, and others, with no real power. This is a crossover disc which may sell well but only because of the names on its cover and not because of what's within.

NEWS

of the muse

Eurovision '99 hoopla gets going

More than 600 foreign reporters and some 100 local journalists are expected to converge on Jerusalem for the Eurovision Song Contest on May 29. Plans to meet the heavy media demands are already under way. The largest media communications room ever built here is being prepared in anticipation of the onslaught, and will include provisions for numerous extra telephone lines, Internet connections, computer, beeper, and cellular-phone distribution, artists' video releases, instant photography development, press kits and press releases.

Twenty-three singing groups are expected with full crews. Special video and television set-ups are in the works. *Rachel Bell*

What have we been up to lately?

The fifth annual screening of films by graduating students of the Hadassah College of Technology will be held at the Jerusalem Cinematheque on March 9. This year's offerings include eight action films and a number of documentary shorts.

The college, located on Rehov Hanevi'im in Jerusalem, started its film and art program seven years ago to address the burgeoning demand for video and television production. Total running time of the films will be approximately 160 minutes. *Rachel Bell*

Hit biblical plays return

In response to popular demand, the Cameri Theater is extending the run of Rina Yerushalmi's biblical epics *Vayomer Vayelech* and *Vayishtahu Vayeira*. Both pieces examine the relationship between God and man and between man, his land and his people.

The plays, which garnered rave reviews in 1998 both in Israel and at international theater festivals, will return to the Ramat Gan Theater for performances tonight. They will then play twice in March, with a final show in April. *Rachel Bell*

The 'cast' of Eric Smith's puppet musical 'Bomba Getz.'

It's a doll's life

Puppeteer Eric Smith celebrates his 25th anniversary here with *Dolly of a Theater* (*Buba shel Te'atron*), a puppet-theater festival for the whole family during the Purim vacation (March 1-3) at the Suzanne Dellal Center in Tel Aviv.

There'll be four of Smith's own productions, including *The Wizard of Oz*, *Andersen Legends* and *The Dream Stealers*. The five guest productions include *the Frog Prince* from the Bavua Theater, *Jack and the Beanstalk* from the Halomot Theater and *Itamar Walks the Walls* from the Meritza Theater.

The festival embraces all kinds of puppets, from Smith's near life-size stick puppets to glove puppets and marionettes.

There'll also be creative workshops for all the family, a silver anniversary exhibition of the Eric Smith Puppet Theater activities and other fun things to do. Activities and shows are between 11 a.m and 6 p.m. and tickets are NIS 45 and NIS 50. *Helen Kaye*

Prime Minister's Prizes to composers awarded

Composers Zvi Avni, Aharon Harlap and Binyamin Yusupov were awarded the Prime Minister's Prize for composition at a ceremony on Monday at the Tel Aviv Rubin Academy. Avni received the prize for his *Ask Peace for Jerusalem*, Harlap for his clarinet concerto and Yusupov for *Gabriel*, which also won the competition accompanying the inauguration of Beit Gabriel on the Kinneret in 1993. *Helen Kaye*

New festival in Eilat

The Israel Chamber Orchestra has announced a special chamber-music festival in the various Isrotel hotels in Eilat (Royal Beach, King Solomon and Riviera Club). Between March 4 and 6, members of the ICO will present eight different programs of music ranging from Mozart to Brahms, Schubert and Mendelssohn. *Michael Ajzenstadt*

Enav appointed cultural chief in Haifa

Ben-Ami Enav, former general director of the Haifa Symphony Orchestra, and more recently of the Batsheva Dance Company, has been appointed the director of the cultural division of the Haifa Municipality. Enav, who resigned last July from Batsheva after less a year on the job, started his new position at the beginning of this month. *Michael Ajzenstadt*

Rebbitzen Gwyneth?

By TOM TUGEND

Gwyneth Paltrow, the beautiful, blonde, Oscar-nominated heroine of *Shakespeare in Love*, is descended from a distinguished rabbinical dynasty called Paltrowitch, which may stretch back to 17th-century Russia.

According to the London-based *Jewish Chronicle*, the actress can count 33 rabbis among her ancestors on her father's side. Her great-great-great-grandfather was Rabbi Tsvi Paltrowitch, the Gaon of Nitzy-Novgorod in southwest Russia, the newspaper reported.

Gwyneth Paltrow (AP)

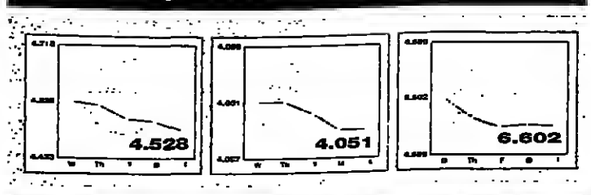
Paltrowitch's three sons, all rabbis, emigrated to America in the 19th century, where one, Simcha Paltrowitch, served as rabbi in Buffalo from 1890 to 1914. Another son, Mayer, subsequently moved to England and established the now defunct Old Central Synagogue in Leeds.

It was through the British branch of the Paltrowitch family that the *Jewish Chronicle* established the lineage of the American branch that includes the actress and her cousin, Dr. Irving Paltrowitch of Newark, New Jersey.

According to genealogical studies by Rabbi Nachum Paltrowitch, a member of the Leeds family, Rabbi David Ben Samuel Ha-Levi, a renowned 17th-century authority on Jewish law, is a direct ancestor. Rabbi Ha-Levi was known as the "Taz" from the initials of his major work, *Turei Zahav*.

Gwyneth's father is TV producer Bruce Paltrow and her mother is actress Blythe Danner. Her brother, Jake, had a bar mitzva, according to the *Jewish Chronicle*.

Today's shekel



In brief

CTS to market Yamanuchi drugs

Medications and other products made by the giant Japanese pharmaceutical consortium Yamanuchi will be marketed in Israel by CTS, which has estimated that it will sell $5 million worth of the Japanese pharmaceuticals over the next three years.

The Japanese company – one of the 20 largest pharmaceutical firms in the world – has 8,000 employees and annual sales of $4 billion, and conducts extensive research. *Judy Siegel*

RAD, Airdata in label-supply deal

RAD Data Communications, an international manufacturer of data and telecommunications access equipment, has signed a private label supply agreement with wireless technology developer Airdata WIMAN Systems.

Under the agreement, Airdata will offer RAD networking equipment as part of the WIMAN (Wireless Metropolitan Area Networks) system suite of products.

The WIMAN system is a highly scaleable data transmission network that allows providers to offer customers wireless service over greater ranges than those typically associated with high-speed wireless data communications. *Nicky Blackburn*

Israir to bid for international flights

By HAIM SHAPIRO

Israir, which in July 1996 began flying scheduled flights between Tel Aviv and Eilat, and later began flying between Tel Aviv and the North, has now decided to bid for a license to fly scheduled international passenger and cargo flights.

Its requests adds a new factor into the continuing clash between El Al and Transport Minister Shaul Yahalom, who is still considering a recommendation by a committee headed by Transport Ministry Director-General Nahoum Langenthal, to give CAL, presently a charter cargo airline, a license to fly scheduled cargo flights. El Al has objected that to do so would be unfair, because El Al is prohibited by the government from flying on Shabbat and CAL is not.

Last week, Israir took delivery of the first of two Boeing 737-700s, intended for international charter flights. Israir managing director Yisrael Harel said that as a young, dynamic alternative company, Israir could improve the situation in international flights, just as it had in domestic flights.

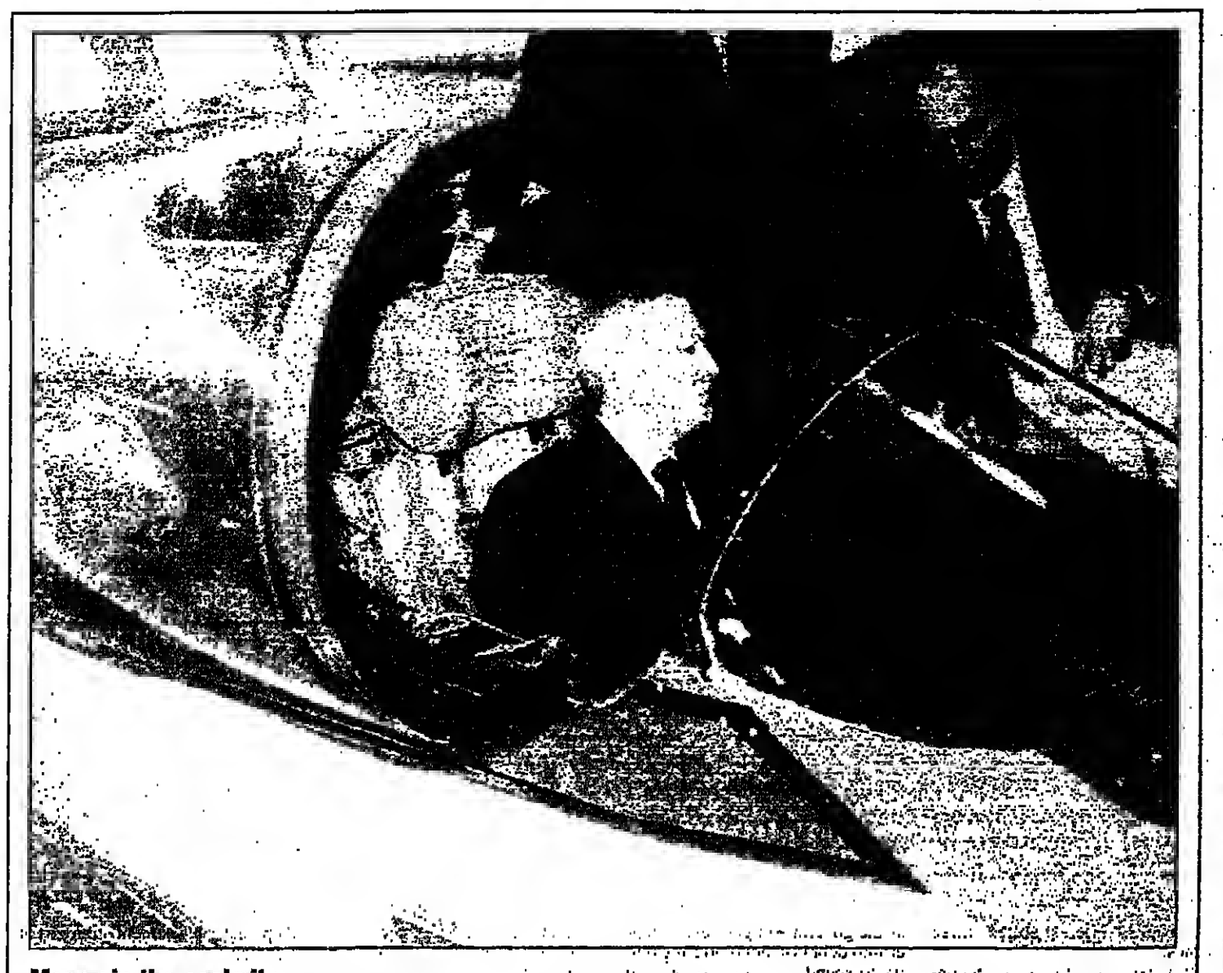
In a letter to Yahalom, Harel said the company had been created in 1994 as part of a government decision to end the monopoly in the air and create competition. At that time, he said, it was felt that the domestic market should be first opened and then the international market. It was Israir, the letter continued, which opened the domestic market in 1996.

Harel promised the company would invest massive sums in new and advanced equipment to give the public the the quality service which it deserves. He added that it had been the competition from Israir that had caused Arkia to renew its aging fleet and that now, Arkia, together with El Al (through its charter subsidiary, Sundor) are waging a merciless battle in an attempt to drive Israir out of the foreign charter market.

He said that with a license as a scheduled carrier, Israir would fly both to the destinations serviced by El Al and to destinations in which Israel has landing rights not utilized by El Al.

In response to the Israir request, El Al secretary and deputy director for commercial development Uri Sirkis said that El Al believes in free competition, but added that it believes that all the competitors have to operate under the same conditions. Although he did not say so, he was apparently referring to the issue of Shabbat flights.

At the same time, Sirkis noted that El Al has the edge on potential competitors in infrastructure and technical and human resources.



Money in the cockpit

Croatian Defense Minister Pavao Miljevac sits in the cockpit of a MiG-21 during a visit to Israel Aircraft Industries on Monday. Croatia granted IAI and Elbit a tender, estimated at $80 million-$120 million, to modernize its fleet of MiG-21s.

'Tourism industry hurt by peace stalemate'

By HAIM SHAPIRO

There is no question that the slowdown of the peace process and the cooling off of the Moslem world toward Israel has caused a slump in tourism to Israel; the only question is "was it worth it?"

According to outgoing Hotel Association President Michael Federman, how one answers the question depends on whether one identifies with the Left or the Right.

Federman, who said that not only was incoming traffic by tourists affected, but also foreign investment in hotels, said that the association has members who belong to the Likud, who believe that it was necessary to arrest the peace process, and those who belong to Labor, who believe that Israel missed a golden opportunity.

"There is no question that government policy caused it," Federman said, adding that among the government actions which harmed tourism was the opening of the exit to the Western Wall Tunnel, an act that was supposed to have been initiated in an effort to help tourism.

Federman recalled that when the peace process appeared to be moving smoothly there were travel agents who came from Malaysia and other Moslem countries to investigate bringing Moslem tourists to Israel. As soon as the situation changed, the inquiries stopped, he said.

He said that in overall terms, it was the geopolitical situation that affected tourism, but it was difficult to predict what would be the result of any specific incident. However, he pointed out that after the Hebron Agreement was signed, there were more visitors.

"If the peace process advances in the eyes of the world, there will be a jump in tourism," he said.

Federman was speaking at a press conference on the eve of the Hotel Association's annual convention, which is to open tonight in Jerusalem. He added that whatever the outcome of the elections, he believes that they will result in a broad coalition of the three major parties and that government policies "will be more welcoming to elements encouraging tourism," Federman said.

In response to Federman's remarks, Mordechai Shilo, Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav's media advisor, said that in Katsav's view, it was less the government policy that affected tourism than the general security situation. He noted that when the peace process was at its peak, under the last government, there had been a rash of terror bus bombings. That marked the beginning of the slump in tourism. This year, he said, it was the tension in the Gulf, something over which Israel had no control, which affected tourism, he said.

Ericsson seeking Israel expansion

BY NICKY BLACKBURN

Swedish telecommunications giant Ericsson announced yesterday that it plans to expand its activity in Israel over the coming year.

Bo Andersson, president of Ericsson Israel, said the company, which already employs 450 people in Israel, is looking at new opportunities for investment, particularly in the fields of wireless and data communications.

"People in this country have a very high degree of technological expertise and start-ups are at the cutting edge when it comes to R&D in new areas," he said.

"We are going to look further into Israel because we know that Ericsson and Israel can work together in a deeper way than we are doing today." Presently Ericsson has agreements with two Israeli companies, BreezeCOM, a developer of wireless modems, and Delta-3, a specialist in Voice-over IP company based in Jerusalem, but Anderson said: "Other agreements are in the pipeline."

He said the company, which is the global leader in wireless systems, plans to look for potential investment opportunities at Israel's universities, start-ups and at the incubator projects. "We will try to find some good products that we can incorporate into our product line throughout the world."

Andersson said that Ericsson, which saw a turnover of $24 billion in 1998, was interested in Israeli engineering talent. "We need talented people. It's one of our biggest problems at the moment. There are lots of talented people in Israel." At a press conference Andersson announced that Ericsson is undergoing a restructuring program, integrating the telecommunications, computing and the media industry into one general area, Infocom.

He said that there would be strong emphasis on data communications, an area in which Israel is particularly strong and that the company aims to move closer to the customer.

"We will listen twice as much to our customers as we did before and will give them what they want," he said.

Ericsson is setting up a cellular network with Palestinian company, Paltel, in the Palestinian Authority. Andersson said the first stage of this system will be up and running in Gaza in a couple of months.

Orbotech '98 sales up 21% to $231.8m.

RESULTS

Orbotech this week announced its consolidated financial results for the fourth quarter and full year ended December 31, 1998.

Revenues for the full year ended December 31, 1998 were $231.8 million, an increase of 21% from $190.8m. recorded in 1997.

Net income for the full year, excluding a $10.3m. one-time charge, net of taxes, relating to the settlement of the patent litigation between Orbotech and KLA-Tencor Corporation, totaled $42.4m., or $3.04 per share (diluted), an increase of 23% compared with net income of $34.6m., or $2.52 per share (diluted) for the full year 1997. Including this one-time charge, reported net income for the full year was $32.1m., or $2.30 per share (diluted).

Revenues for the fourth quarter were $62.0m., an increase of 17% from the $53.1m. recorded in the fourth quarter a year ago.

Net income for the fourth quarter of 1998, excluding a $10.3m. one-time charge, net of taxes, relating to the settlement of the patent litigation between Orbotech and KLA-Tencor Corporation, totaled $11.9m., or $0.85 per share (diluted), an increase of 19% compared with net income from the fourth quarter of 1997 of $10.0m., or $0.71 per share (diluted). Including this one-time charge, reported net income for the fourth quarter of 1998 was $1.6m., or $0.11 per share (diluted).

On a geographical basis, the Company recorded revenue gains in most areas, with particularly strong growth in the United States and Europe. Sales of equipment to the printed circuit board ("PCB") industry increased by 22% as compared with the fourth quarter of 1997.

Commenting on the results, Yochai Richter, president and chief executive officer, said, "We are pleased to report a strong conclusion to a productive year. We continue to experience strong demand for our core PCB products. Our assembly business, which was acquired in 1997, has also increased its contribution to revenues.

"We were pleased to announce, after the quarter, our acquisition of the Japanese company, KLA Acrotec Co. Ltd., which will strengthen our presence in the strategically important FPD industry, particularly in Japan. We believe that this acquisition, by significantly increasing our proximity to customers in Japan and throughout the Pacific Rim, will result in overall improved service and products for our customers, and we also attribute special importance to the acquisition in light of the re-emergence of the FPD industry which we are presently witnessing.

Richter concluded, "We are pleased with the progress we made in 1998 and look forward to a successful 1999."

Except for historical information, the matters discussed in this press release are forward-looking statements that are subject to certain risks and uncertainties which could cause the actual results to differ materially from those projected, including the timely development and acceptance of new products, delays in factory testing and acceptance, industry trends, technology or pricing competition and other risks detailed from time to time in the company's SEC reports.

The company assumes no obligation to update the information in this press release.

Orbotech is the world leader in the design, development, manufacture and marketing of automated optical inspection ("AOI") systems for use in the manufacture of PCBs and flat panel displays ("FPD"s). In addition, the company is a leading manufacturer of computer-aided manufacturing ("CAM") systems, laser plotters for PCB production and AOI systems for use in the electronics assembly industry, and is developing its proprietary technologies for other applications both within and outside the electronics industry. *Bloomberg*

VCON Telecommunications, a leading developer and manufacturer of video conferencing for ISDN and IP networks yesterday announced an 80 percent rise in annual sales from $9.5m. in 1997 to $17.1m. in 1998.

VCON, which is based in Herzliya also announced that revenues for the final quarter of 1998 were $5m., up 78.6% over Q4 1997 sales of $2.8m.

"I'm pleased with VCON's growth during 1998," said Yair Shamir, president and CEO of VCON. "Our revenue grew significantly since last year. This achievement validates our belief in the Video over IP (Internet Protocol) solutions utilizing the H.323 standard.

During the year we have installed over 50 networks with 25 or more end points, all running over TCP/IP networks." Shamir predicted that this year the company will again see a huge leap in sales since many customers who piloted with videoconferencing in 1998, are now moving into production and starting to implement networks with hundreds of end points.

"As a leader in this new technology, we anticipate increased demand for our products during 1999 and the years to come," said Shamir.

To provide the necessary infrastructure for this potential increase in demand the company has opened an office in China and strengthened subsidiaries throughout the world. *Nicky Blackburn*

US-Iranian investor launches $20m. Israel high-tech fund

BY NICKY BLACKBURN

Kamran Elahian, the founder of a number of highly profitable hi-tech companies in Silicon Valley is to launch a new $20 million venture capital fund to try to help small Israeli hi-tech start-ups achieve global success in the shortest possible time frame.

Elahian, who is Iranian born, said the new fund, called Global Catalyst Partners ECP, will be a trilateral venture between Israel, America and Japan.

The idea is to identify promising start-ups with good technological ideas in Israel and the Silicon Valley, inject capital into them, begin manufacturing products in Japan with the help of a local partner, and then set up corporate headquarters in the US. Once the company is ready, a public offering on NASDAQ will follow.

"We want to help companies accelerate their growth by taking advantage of the best things in each region," said Elahian.

"In Israel and the Silicon Valley there's an impressive amount of technological creativity and new ideas but there isn't a lot of high growth global management expertise. Not many people know how to take a company global, how to access markets in Japan, the US or Taiwan. Nor do they have much understanding of high volume manufacturing."

Elahian is one of California's leading entrepreneurs. He has co-founded six companies including two successful semiconductor outfits, Neomagic Corporation which went public based on a company value of $340m., and Cirrus Logic which went public based on a company value of $150m.

The new fund will focus on telecommunications, data communications, the Internet and microelectronics.

It will be managed in Israel by Eliezer Manor, director of the Israel Venture Association, in Japan by Koji Osawa, former head of new businesses at Mitsubishi, and in the US by Elahian and by Art Schneiderman, a senior partner in the Silicon Valley law firm, Wilson, Sonsini, Goodridge and Rosati.

Discussions are already underway with a number of large Japanese and American companies that will contribute to the fund, but Elahian added that he plans to choose only a few participants who can partner the start-ups.

The fund should begin operating in another two to three months.

During his short visit to Israel, Elahian said he was planning to visit some seven or eight start-ups, some of which belong to the incubator project set up by the Office of the Chief Scientist.

"These are small companies with just a few members of staff," said Elahian.

Earlier this week, Elahian also launched an initiative to connect Palestinian and Israeli schools to the Internet as part of his international Schools OnLine project, a scheme designed to bring Internet access to schools in underprivileged areas.

On Thursday Elahian will be speaking on the challenges and opportunities of global entrepreneurship at the annual MIT Enterprise Forum of Israel at the Recanati School of Management.

Sotheby signs up online dealers

LONDON (Reuters) – Sotheby's auction house said yesterday it has signed up 1,500 art dealers in the US and Europe for its new Internet site, allowing them to trade their wares online starting in July.

The site, sothebys.com, will offer an online platform for auctioning art, antiques, and jewelry and is aimed at complementing Sotheby's core live auction business.

David Redden, executive vice president of Sotheby's in New York, said the site's 1,500 charter members represent a significant portion of the world's art dealing elite.

Sotheby's announced in January that it was launching an Internet auction business, joining the flurry of companies rushing to capitalize on electronic commerce.

Its first online auction will be baseball memorabilia from collector Barry Halper's collection, which will take place via the Internet and also live auction in New York.

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هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأعلى

CPI buoys TASE • Yen sinks to 10-week low

SHARES

TEL AVIV

Israeli stocks rose yesterday, led by Bezeq Ltd after the government was reported to be moving closer to selling more of its stake in the state-controlled telephone company.

Stocks were also buoyed by a greater-than-expected decline in the January consumer price index, which showed inflation is decelerating and boosted expectations the Bank of Israel will reduce interest rates.

The Maof Index of the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange's 25 largest companies rose 1.47% to 307.20, its highest since January 21, after rising 2.04% on Monday. Ten stocks rose for every one that fell. Three were unchanged.

Bezeq Ltd. rose 4.02% to NIS13.20.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, who is also the acting finance minister, and Communications Minister Limor Livnat will meet in the days ahead to discuss recommendations calling for Israel's state-controlled phone company to reduce prices, *Ha'aretz* reported.

The government has said it intends to reduce its stake in Bezeq by selling shares in the phone company on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange in April or May.

Bank Leumi, Israel's No. 2 bank by assets, rose 1.77% to NIS5.74. Banks will benefit from a reduction in interest rates that is considered likely after the consumer price index fell 0.5% in January.

First International Bank gained 2.26% to 19.04.

Bank Hapoalim, Israel's largest bank, rose 2.30% to 7.55. A group of investors led by Ted Arison, the founder of Carnival Corp., will reportedly bid for 7% of the government's stake in the bank.

The Arison group already controls the bank. M.I. Holdings, the company charged with selling the state's holding in banks, will publish a tender for the shares in another 10 days, the newspaper said.

Elbit Systems Ltd. rose 0.35% to 14.35.

The weapons maker said it will be a subcontractor on a project, estimated at up to $120 million, won by Israel Aircraft Industries Ltd. to modernize Croatian Mig-21 fighter aircraft.

EUROPE

UK stocks rose for a fourth day, led by Barclays Plc and other banks after Britain's No. 2 bank said second-half profit doubled. Drugmakers gained before Glaxo Wellcome Plc and Zeneca Group Plc report earnings later this week.

The Barclays "results showed that a recession is unlikely to be severe," said Charles Maisey, director of the investment management division of Quilter & Company Ltd. He helps manage £3 billion.

"The [banking] sector looks attractive against the background of falling interest rates." Low interest rates are good news for banks because they lift revenue from lending and increase the value of bond portfolios banks typically hold.

The UK's benchmark FTSE 100 Index rose 99.3 points, or 1.7%, to 6122.5. About four stocks rose for every one that fell. Barclays rose 74 pence to 1,664, while National Westminster Bank Plc advanced 109p to 1,391. Lloyds TSB Group Plc climbed 23p to 905.5 and HSBC Holdings Plc rose 75p to 1,755.

Barclays' second-half profit rose to 448 million pounds.

WALL STREET

The Dow Jones industrials ended slightly higher yesterday after swinging broadly throughout the session, but the Nasdaq composite extended Friday's fierce sell-off amid concerns about Dell Computer's earnings.

At the close of trading on Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average was up 22.14 points – or by 0.24 percent – at 9,297.03.

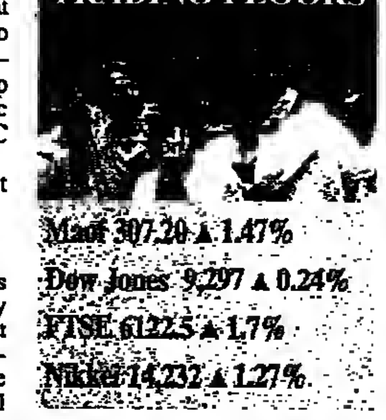
The Dow got as high as 9387.40, up 112.51, in the first hour of trading in reaction to sharply lower interest rates in the bond market. It slid to negative 15 points, then turned positive again in mid-afternoon and flitted between positive and negative for the remainder of the session.

The broader market was not as strong, as investors sold computer-related technology shares for the second day on nervousness that Dell Computer's earnings would show a downturn in computer sales. Dell shares were down 1 1/8 at 88 3/4.

CURRENCIES

The yen sank to a 10-week low against the dollar and a two-week low versus the euro after Japanese finance officials said they favor a weaker currency and will drive down long-term bond yields to revive the economy.

TRADING FLOORS



Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, senior Ministry of Finance officials Eisuke Sakakibara and Haruhiko Kuroda and Bank of Japan Governor Masaru Hayami all said they welcome any decline in the yen caused by the central bank's interest-rate cut Friday.

"You've got a very fragile economy running against the head winds of a strong yen and higher long-term interest rates," said Anne Parker Mills, senior currency analyst at Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. It's evident officials have become quite concerned, she said. "Today's news is very negative for the yen."

The yen fell 2% against the dollar, its biggest drop in five weeks, and pushed the US currency up to 118.09 yen from 115.71 yesterday in New York. That's the yen's weakest level since December 10. The yen also weakened to 131.92 per euro from 129.89 while the dollar gained to $1.1184 per euro from $1.1223.

The Japanese currency's 25% gain against the dollar since mid-August has hurt exports, the main hope for any economic recovery in Japan. The government said today it forecasts the economy will grow 0.5% in the year starting April 1, after predicting it'll shrink 2.2% in the current fiscal year.

COMMODITIES

METALS

Gold fell more than 2%, its biggest drop since June, and silver had its biggest loss in a year and a half, as a weakening yen made dollar-priced precious metals more expensive to buyers in Asia.

"The stronger dollar was the main impetus that pushed precious metals lower, particularly in gold," said Robin Alssid, a senior precious metals dealer at Mitsubishi International Corp. in New York. "People didn't expect to see the yen quite so much lower." The yen sank after Japanese finance officials said they favor a weaker currency.

Japan is the world's seventh-biggest gold buyer and other currencies in Asia often follow the yen's lead. Asia is the biggest gold consuming region in the world.

Gold for April delivery fell as much as $6.20, or 2.1%, to for to $285 an ounce on the Comex division of the New York Mercantile Exchange, its biggest one-day drop since June 11.

March silver fell as much as 35.2 cents, or 6.2%, to $5.31 an ounce on the Comex. It was the biggest one-day drop since July 7, 1997, when silver and gold sank after Australia's central bank said it had sold two-thirds of its gold reserves.

Silver traded in London rose yesterday to its highest price since July as the cost of borrowing the metal reached levels not seen since February 1998, when billionaire Warren Buffett's investment company, Berkshire Hathaway Inc., said it accumulated 130 million ounces.

Silver had rallied approximately 10% in New York and London over the past three months amid high borrowing costs and low inventories.

ENERGY

Heating oil fell 3% to a record low on the New York Mercantile Exchange amid expectations that mild weather will leave inventories high in the final weeks of the winter heating season.

US heating oil inventories are 17% higher than a year ago with the latest long-range forecast from the National Weather Service calling for normal temperatures in the US Northeast, the biggest US heating oil market, from February 21 to 25. Heating demand over the next seven days will be 12% below normal, according to Weather Derivatives of Belton, Missouri.

March heating oil fell as much as 0.87 cent, or 2.9%, to 29.50 cents a gallon on the Nymex, below the record low of 29.95 cents a gallon set on July 14, 1986.

Brent crude oil for April delivery rose as much as 8 cents to $10.45 a barrel on the International Petroleum Exchange in London, against rising tensions in the Middle East. Iraq has threatened to strike out against the oil-rich nations of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey. March crude oil on the New York Mercantile Exchange rose 6 cents to $11.94 a barrel in electronic trading.

(News agencies)

DILBERT
By Scott Adams

Global gloom follows American boom

If you can't impeach the president, take it out on the stock and bond markets.

Or so it appeared on Friday, as the Dow Jones industrial average slid 88.57 points to 9,274.89, completing its fifth losing week out of the last seven.

In the Treasury bond market, the mood was even more downbeat, as long-term yields soared to their highest levels since August amid a sudden dumping of bonds late Friday.

Little wonder that as of mid-week, Morningstar Inc. calculated that 84 percent of all US diversified stock mutual funds were down year-to-date. If you're feeling a bit poorer this year, it's not your imagination.

But for most investors, alarm bells probably aren't ringing yet – not like they were in early August, as the Dow began to sink from its mid-July peak while Treasury bond yields were dropping. The great concern then was that the world was on the verge of a deflation-fueled economic bust that lower interest rates wouldn't cure.

In other words, people began to fear that Japan's vicious cycle of falling prices, crumbling asset values and plunging consumer confidence was going global.

The deflation/bust worries quickly dissipated in the fall, as most world markets recovered from their late-summer plunge after the Federal Reserve cut short-term interest rates three times.

It helped a lot, too, that US consumers rode to the rescue, spending up a storm and driving the domestic economy in the fourth quarter to its fastest growth rate in two years.

But aside from rising US bond yields, events in markets and key world economies last week arguably should have had that deja-vu-all-over-again feel for anyone who sold stocks in August amid that deflation/bust scare: –On Friday, the Bank of Japan cut its benchmark short-term interest rate to 0.15 percent, from what was already a record-low 0.25%.

The next stop will be for Japanese banks to lend at zero interest.

Free money! The Bank of Japan had two goals with the latest rate cut: First, to offer more relief to struggling borrowers, as the economy continues to hemorrhage. And second, to try to pull down long-term Japanese bond yields, which have soared since October as the government goes ever deeper into debt (via bond offerings) to try to spend the economy back to health.

But to many US analysts, the rate cut just smacked of more desperation in the world's second-largest economy.

–In Europe, the Bank of England warned last Wednesday that the British economy could slow to a growth rate of just 0.5 percent this year, barely above recession conditions.

And in Germany, the leftist finance minister, Oskar Lafontaine, was reported to have called for a sharp rise in government spending programs in Europe this year to reverse slowing economic growth.

MARKETWATCH

The Finance Ministry denied the report, but Lafontaine has been quite vocal about the need to boost growth in the new Euroland to combat high unemployment.

For whatever reason, investors have turned jittery across Europe in recent weeks. The German stock market slid 3.8 percent last week and is down 2.3% for the year. The Dow industrial average, by contrast, is still up 1% for the year.

Key commodity prices continued to sink, with the CRB/Bridge index of 17 commodities ending Friday at 186.77, its lowest since 1977 and even 4% below its cheapest point during August's worldwide market calamity.

Sugar and soybean prices are now near 12-year lows, while cocoa hit a two-year low Friday. For many commodities, the story is exactly the same: a glut of supply worldwide and too few buyers. (Note from African cocoa growers: Please eat more chocolate.) Gluts, of course, usually lead to lower prices, which is just another way of saying deflation.

Despite the valiant spending effort of American consumers, "the big problem on this planet is not enough demand," says Jeffrey Applegate, investment strategist at Lehman Bros. in New York.

To put it another way, not a lot has changed in the global picture since August, other than Russia getting worse, Latin America getting worse, Japan getting worse and Britain getting worse.

The lack-of-demand issue figured prominently in the US Commerce Department's preliminary finding Friday that Brazil and Japan have dumped certain types of steel in the US market, to the detriment of domestic producers.

That could trigger tariffs and other penalties against those countries. So far, nobody's talking trade war, but the development is disturbing nonetheless: It speaks volumes about the threat of potentially protectionist sentiment in a world where too many goods are chasing too few buyers.

Why, then, aren't more alarm bells going off on Wall Street?

The blue-chip Standard & Poor's 500 index is off 3.9 from its January 29 record high but is still up marginally for the year. The tech-heavy Nasdaq composite index has slid 7.5% from its peak on February 1 but still has a 5.9% gain year-to-date. And trading volume has thinned lately, a sign there's little urgency in the selling.

Some investors may simply be suffering from ongoing "crisis fatigue" – in other words, they've become tough to shock anymore.

Also, fourth-quarter earnings for blue-chip companies overall have been 4.3% above analysts' expectations, according to earnings tracker First Call. The year-over-year fourth-quarter profit gain for the average company is expected to be 6%, First Call says – a dramatic improvement from the 3% decline in the third quarter and a strong supporting factor for stock prices.

Finally, and ironically, Wall Street so far may be taking some comfort in the surge in long-term Treasury bond yields, which left the bellwether 30-year T-bond yield at 5.42 % Friday, up from 5.36% a week earlier and the highest since August 24.

Higher bond yields aren't good for stocks in the long run. But given the renewed weakness in foreign economies and in commodity prices, one could argue that the US stock market would be more freaked out if Treasury bond yields were sinking right now – as during last summer's deflation/bust scare.

Instead, with the rise in yields thus far attributed to the amazingly robust US economy, stock investors, and the Fed, can argue that that is a nice problem to have.

What investors worldwide demonstrated late last summer is that they have a much tougher time (understandably) coping with the reverse: The possibility of a Japan-style crisis on a global scale.

(Los Angeles Times)

FINANCIAL MARKETS

TEL AVIV 100
LEADING SHARES

	LAST	CHANGE*
Africa Hotels	507	0
Africa Israel 0.1	21100	1
Africa Israel 1	184700	-0.6
Agis	2010	1.5
Al Paper Mills	15300	0.6
Al-Rov	1620	-2.2
Azorim	3039	1.3
Azorim Prop.	785	0.7
Bank Leumi 0.1	574	1.8
Baran	3150	2.3
Bayside 1	44200	6.5
Bayside 5	222900	0
Bezeq	1320	4
Blue Square	5000	0
Bromine	2800	0
Carmel	3080	8
Clal Electronics	63500	0
Clal Industries	1863	-0.1
Clal Insurance	3520	0.9
Clal Israel 1	8800	0.5
Dan Hotels	649	9.2
Dankner	1979	0
Darban	530	-0.9
Dead Sea Works 0.1	890	1.1
Delek 0.1	11000	0
Delek Car	780	1.6
Delta 1	3880	-1.3
Development Mort	17530	0.9
Discount Bank	354	0.3
Discount Inv.	12150	1.2
Elbit 0.003	1435	0.3
Elbit Imaging	4550	0.9
Elbit systems	5460	2.4
Elco Holdings	1050	0.5
Elco Industries	3120	-8.8
Electra	17920	3
Electra App	2700	2.3
Elite Ind. 1	2780	1.5
Elite Ind. 5	13910	1.2
Elron 0.003	6400	0.9
FIBI 5	2529	2
First Int'l 1	388	1.3
First Int'l 5	1904	2.3
First Int'l Mort	31300	4.3
Formula	9620	1.7
General Bank	8680	0
Grand Hacarmel	484	0
Hadarim Prop	7500	-1.6
Hapoalim 0.1	755	2.3
Harel Mishmar 1	3110	0
Harel Mishmar 5	14780	1.2
Home Center	3672	-3.2
I.D.B. Dev.	8870	0.3
I.D.B. Holdings	8490	1.2
ILDC	2090	-0.9
Ind Bldgs	494	0.8
Israel Chemicals	395	2.9
Israel Corp. 1	34400	2.7
Isrotel	630	0.5
Jafora	750	0
JCT	29.9	0
Kardan	1461	-1.3
Kitan	429	0.5
Knafaim	4150	0
Koor	36900	2.5
Leumi Insurance	216	0.9
Leumi Mortgage	84000	-1.1
Ma'ariv	9150	-0.9
Makhteshim Agan Ind.	802	1.9
Maman	478	0
Matav	4810	0.2
Mehadrin	12000	-1.6
Mei Eden	1580	0
Melisseron	985	0.4
Menorah Ins. 1	1550	0
Mishkan	60000	3.4
Mivtach Shamir	2050	0
Mizrahi	682	1
NATSVA REGULAR	1463	-0.5
Nice Systems	9880	1.1
Ormat Industries	471	-0.6
Osem Industries	1750	0.7
Petrochemicals	2080	-0.5
Phoenix Ins. 1	862	0
Plasson	4050	1.2
Poalim Inv.	11560	1.4
Point of Sale	2710	0.7
Prop & Bldg	31400	0.8
Salt Industries	1748	1
Shikun u'Binui	263	0
Solel Bone	3800	-3.3
Supersol	996	0.8
Tadiran	1775	5
Tambour	540	-0.9
Teleshot	171500	0.3
Tempo	1648	0
Teva	16720	-0.3
Urdan Israel	2880	0
Wire and Cables	1172	3.7
Ytong Industries	933	0

RETZEF
SMALL CAPITALIZATION TASE ISSUES

	LAST	CHANGE*
Abjac	1.8	0
Abudi	42.8	0
Ace-Spade	87.6	0
Ackerstein Bond B	183.4	0
Ackerstein Ind.	416	-1
Ackerstein Zvi 1	1800	0
Ackerstein Zvi 5	8000	3.9
Adanim	297400	0
Adler	120	0
Adafit	120	0
Adumim	310	0
Africa Hotels Bond B	97.7	0
Africa Hotels Warrant 2	67	0
Africa Israel Hotels Bond A	141.6	0
Afek Ind	974	0
Agis Warrant 4	210	0
Agam Int'l	329	0
Agri Investments	430	0
Al-Ban	149.9	0
Al-Ban Bond A	125.9	0
Alha c2	97	0
Alha w6	110	0
Alliance	595	0
Alon	267	0
Alony-Hetz	470	1.1
Alony-Hetz Bond A	219	1.9
Alrod	200	0
Alrod Warrant 1	1	0
Alrov Bond D	81.8	0
Alrov Warrant S	99	0
Alumir	256	0
Alumit	2100	0
Amigur	209	0
Amitec	127	0
Ammati Warrant 1	59	-19.9
Ampal	700	0
Ampa Investments	10100	0
Analyst EMS	800	0
Angel Trade	58.5	0
Angel Trade Bond A	162	0
Angel Trade Bond B	120	0
Angel Trade Bond C	64	-3
Apcon	688	0
Apcon-warrant 1	161	0
Applicom	2400	0
Aracali Warrant 2	318	3.9
Arad	1250	0
Arad Towels	1261	-3
Arazim	113.5	0
Argaman	127	0
Aridan	1375	0
Arpal	135	0
Aryt	103	0
Ashkelon Plywood	514	0
Ashkelon Plywood Bond 2	155.8	1.3
Ashlad	510	0
Ashlad Bond A	182.2	-0.2
Ashot	240	4.3
Ashot Bond A	183	0
Ashpaza	94	0
Ashtrom Bond 1	180.2	0
Ashtrom Bond 2	185.6	0
Ashtrom Ind.	550	0
Ashtrom Prop.	170	-1.5
Astrom P Bond 1	94	-1.1
Astrom p warrant a	22.8	0
Astrum Bond C	105.5	0
Astrum Warrant 2	12.1	-58.3
Atlon	80	0
Atmor	969	-0.1
ATX	175	-6.1
Atzmon	160	0
Aura	4600	1.1
Avarot	268	7.2
Avarot Bond A	166	0
Averbach Formica	600	0
Aviv	415	0
Aviv Bond 1	181.1	0.1
Aviv Bond 2	89.8	-1.3
Avner	5	4.2
Avrot Bond 2	96	0
Avrot Warrant 2	25	0
Ayalon	945	0
Azimuth	418	0
Azorim Properties Bond 3	185	0
Azorim Warrant 13	395	1
Azorim Warrant S	102.9	-0.8
Azorim Warrant A	148	-1.3
Azorim Warrant B	498	-1.4
Badash Bond 1	25.1	0
Balil	269	0
Balentine 1	143.5	0
Balentine Bond A	133.2	0
Baltron	3650	0
Bama'asal	650	0
Bama'asal Bond A	149.7	0
Bar	333	0
Bar Bond A	137	0
Barad	239	0
Baranowitz	800	0
Barlan	619	0
Bazsol	109	0
Bartal	280	0
Baumel Moshe	183.5	0
BaySide Bond 2	94	-0.2
BaySide Warrant D	1031	0
Beit Shemesh	1500	1.7
Belmon	415	0
Ben Yakar Bond A	185.5	0
Ben Yakar Bond B	87	0
Ben Yakar Gat	4300	0
Berman	151	0
Bezak Bond 3	130	3.5
Bezak Warrant Bond 3	309	5.8
Bitu	2000	0
Bitu Bond A	168	0
Binar	280	0
Biri	262	0
Bolos Bond B	66.3	0
bolos gad warrant 1	34	-12.8
Bonei Tichon	499	0
Bonjour	550	0
Boulous Brothers	126.8	-4.6
Boulous Brothers Bond 1	269	0
Boulous GD	393	0
Boulous GD Bond A	140.3	0
Brand	99	0
Brill	38	0
Brok Side	14.3	0
Brosh	112.5	0
Building Bank	1360	-0.8
Building Resou.	4100	0
C Holdings	288	0
C Holdings Bond 5	67	25.4
Caesarea 1	6580	0
Capital	980	0
Capital Bond A	126	0
Caprice	269	-6.9
Cargal	589	0
Carmel	490	2.3
Carmiel	406	0
Castro	489	0
Catalona 1	431	0
CDI	183.7	-10
Cementical Bond A	50	0
Cementical	192.3	0
Centre	150	0
Centre Bond 1	141.9	-0.1
Chem	395	0
Cheyun Computers	161	0
Chemipal	450	0
Chim-Rr	354	0
Cl Systems	119	0
Cidab	281	6.1
Clal Computers	9230	0.7
Clal Retail	49700	0
Cohen Bani	151	0
Cohen Dev.	179	0
Cohen MM	130	0
Cold Storage 1	2250	-0.4
Compl	157	0
Compi Warrant 1	11.7	0
Compulite	190	0
Comtech	420	0
Comtress	809	0
Contel	1099	-0.1
Contractors	21800	0
Coral Beach	768	0
Credit Line	3.4	0
Credit Lines Bond A	33	0
Cyclone 1	2760	1.8
Cyclone Bond 2	166.8	0
Dairon	1545	0
Dalin	1	0
Dan Rent-A-Car	760	0
Dan Rent-A-Car Bond A	168.5	0
Danbar 1	3390	1.8
Danbar 5	8800	2.3
Danbar Bond A	294	0
Danbar Resources	3970	0
Danbar Resources Bond B	177	0
Danbar Tech.	4330	0
Danbar Technologies Bond A	183.1	0
Danel	90	
Danel Bond A	80.9	-0.1
Danel Personnel	1840	0
Danel Warrant 2	151	0
Dankner Bond 1	219	-0.5
Dankner Bond 2	148	0
Dankner Bond 3	94	-2.1
Dankner Warrant C	380	0
Danly	550	0
Darad	109.4	0
DARBAN BOND 2	101	-1
Darban Bond A	171	0
Darban Warrant 3	60	0
Darse	154.6	-0.3
Derion	299	0
Dash Investment	840	0
Data	810	-8.9
Decision Systems	358	0
Degem Systems	384	-2.8
Delek Drilings	16	0
Delek Oil	1490	0
Destiny	1062	0
Digel	1308	5.9
Diroml	1400	0
Dolav	369	-0.3
Dolav Bond A	145.1	0
Dolav warrant 1	18.3	0
Domcar	461	0
Domicar Bond	163.2	0
Dor Berger	270	0
Dor Chim	330	0
Dor Energy	1283	0
Dorc wt	41.8	0
Doros	50.6	0
Dorl ct	89.8	-0.2
Dorl Engineering	472	0
Dorl Engineering Bond A	144.5	-0.3
Dovrat Bond A	148	0.6
Dovrat Shrem	1395	0
DSL	840	1.8
Dubek M	2.8	0
Dubek S	3	0
Dunitz	230	0
DYG Industries	430	0
E & M Computing	1210	0.8
Edgar Albert	49.5	0
Edgar Industries	200	0
Edgar Inv. Bond C	88.5	-0.1
Edgar Inv. Warrant 5	17.4	1.2
Efiss Bond A	98	0
Ern	152	0
Eltam	350	0
Etoraan	3800	-0.8
El Bad	2200	2.7
El Canit	435	0
El Canit Bond 1	168	0
Elad	468	0
Elad Bond A	178	0
Elad Bond B	150.8	0
Elad c5	75	0
Elad w5	15	0
Elbit Computers Bond D	134.8	-0.3
Elden Tech.	176	10
Electronics Line	669	0
Elgar	7000	0
Elitech Ind.	890	0
Elkam	295	1.7
Ella	275	0
Ella Bond A	148.5	-0.1
Elran	4960	2.1
Emek	197.9	8.1
Emyle	925	2.8
Engel Const.	510	-3.8
ESE	1520	2.2
Eshed Robotech	215	0
Even	500	0
Evrola Warrant 1	1243	0
Excelence	1450	0
Export Inv.	780	0
Extra	135.9	0
Feldman	78.4	0
Feldman Bond A	157.5	0
Feldman Ind.	250	0
Feuchtwanger 1	7400	0
Feuchtwanger 5	32800	3.2
Fidelil	2350	0
Five J Jewelers	371	0
Five J Jewelers Bond 2	137	0
Formica Source	100	0
Frutarom	374	3.9
Gahelet	10900	1.9
Galcom	84.2	-8.9
Galran	1350	0
Gama	139	0
Gamatronic	580	2.0
Gambit	3000	-2.8
Gan Shmuel Bond A	111.1	0
Gan Shmuel Warrant 3	380	-2.3
Gan Shmuel	1399	7
Genel Hadar	470	-4.1
Gap Development	125	0
Gap Holdings	200	0
Gap Warrant 2	2.1	0
Gazit	700	0
Gazit Bond C	133	-0.7
Gibor Bond 1	65	0
Gibor Bond A	86.7	-0.3
Gibor Sabrina	82	0
Gibor Sport	694	0
Gibor Warrant 2	92	0
Gilboa	54	0
Gilo	180	0
Gihek	1958	-0.2
Givot Olam Oil	109.4	-1.5
Glob Rtl	821	0
Golan	450	0
Gold	375	0
Golden House	512	0
Golden House Bond 1	0	0
Golex	217	0
Granit Bond	155.1	1.4
Granit Bond 2	150.8	0
Green Software	91	0
Greenberg	1452	-3.1
H. Electronics	49.2	0
H. Mer	815	0
Habas	3480	0
Habas Bond 1	135	0
Hadar 1	29900	-2.3
Hadar 5	100000	-10.7
Hadar Ins. 1	808	-5
Hadar Ins. 5	2790	0
Hadarim Bond1.	118.4	0
Hadarim Warrant1	940	0
Haga	439	0
Hagai Bond B	165.2	0
Ham-Let	1290	3.2
Hamakor	158.3	0
Harel	5	0
Hasin Esh	887	0
Hason	280	0
Hatehof 1	174	0
Hatehof Bond A	152	0
Hayel	948	-21
Hayel Bond2	110	0
Hayel Warrant 1	77	-0.6
Hed Arzi Music	247	0
Hiron 1	10150	0
Hiron 5	34200	-5
HL Service Bond 2	195	0
HL Service Bond 3	154	0
HL Services	2390	0
Hod	108	0
Hol	920	0
Holit	170	0
Hydrolics	115	0
IES Industries	242	10
IES Warrant 1	25.5	13.8
Ilan Gat	118	0
Ilan Gat Bond A	153.7	0
ILDC Bond B	269	0.4
ILDC Hotels	310	0
ILDC Hotels Bond 1	0	0
ILDC Hotels Warrant 2	109	0
ILDC Insurance	373	0
ILDC Insurance Bond A	143	-1.4
Imco	847	-6.4
Ind Bld Warrant 3	19.2	-8.6
Ind Bldgs R1	2.4	0
Ind.Dev.Bank C	339	0.8
Ind.Dev.Bank CC	3350	0
Ind.Dev.Bank CC 1	3370	0
Ind.Dev.Bank Pref	1378	0.8
Independence Mort	43400	3.3
Intercosma	1050	0
Intergamma 1	2480	8.7
Intergamma 5	11700	0
Inventech	544	-2
Iscal	1050	0.5
Ispro	5800	0
Isracolor	426	1.4
Israel Corp. 5	145000	2
Israel Lighterage Bond 3	145.1	-0.7
Israel Wire & Cables Bond C	190.2	0
Isralom	1135	0
Isralom Bond C	86	0
Isramco	2.6	0
Isras 1	6780	0
Isras 5	29600	0
ISTA LINES	2540	0
Itay	2300	0
Itay Bond 1	80	0
Itay Warrant 1	360	0
Jafora Bond A	165	0
Jaysour	142	-9.6
Jaysour Bond A	118.6	0
JEC Bond B	98.5	-0.5
Jerusalem Mort	181.8	-2.1
Jerusalem Mortgage Bond 16	179	0
Jeunesse	30.2	0
JOEL	815	-9.6
JOEL Bond 1A	244	0
JOEL Bond 2	131.9	0.7
JOEL Bond A	255	0
JOEL Warrant 3	2.6	4
Kadmani	119	0
Kadouri	729	0
kafrice bond b	91.6	0
kafrice warrant 1	72.5	0
Kalrit	1100	0
Kalkalit Bond A	82.5	-0.5
Kalkalit warrant 2	135	1.3
Kamour	343	0
Kamour Bond G	137	-0.1
Kamsapt	911	0
Kenal Warrant G	1	0
Kanicol	30	0
Kanicol Bond A	42.7	0
Kardan 1	525	0
Kardan 5	2620	0
Katz	126	0
Katz Bond A	60.5	0
Kadam Chemicals	2730	-2.8
Kenster	515	0
Kesher	801	-0.2
Kesher Bond A	154	0
Keter	822	0
Kind	15.4	8.5
Kind Bond A	33	0
King	224	0
Kinneret	169	0
Klach Kirur	170	0
Klahvs Teuis	1152	0
Kitel	220	0
Kitel Bond A	176.6	2.6
Kitel Bond A	90	0
Kll Ind. 5	8890	0
Koor Bond 5	145	0
Kopel	333	0
Kopel Bond 1	251	0
La Nationale Bond A	151.5	0
La Nationale Pref	125	0
Lachish	2460	2.5
Lamont	810	0
Lapidot Oil Exploration	1	0
Lapidot Oil Explorers	62.1	3.5
Lasers	380	2.6
Lavlav	534	-9.9
Laznick Bldg	449	0
Laznick Comm Ctrs	136.6	0
Laznick Commercial Centres Bond	143.5	0
Laznick Ind Bldgs	310	0
Laznick Industrial Bldgs. Bond A	149	0
Leader	950	2.6
Lego	437	0
Leumi Warrant 5	42.9	3.1
Leventhal	660	0
Levi	494	0
Levi Bond A	144.4	-0.0
Levi Bond B	91.5	0
Levi Warrant 2	27	-12.9
Levinstein Bond A	328	0
Levinstein Warrant 2	4450	0
Levinstein	3210	0
Liber	334	1.5
Lidan	1445	0
Lilshir 1	167.8	-9.3
Lilshir 5	490	0
Lipad	259	0
Lipad Bond 1	163	0.5
Lighterage 1	830	0
LIMS	245	0
Lipman	2950	0
Lipski	3590	-0.3
Lipski Bond A	182.2	0
Liraz	2610	-0.4
Liraz Bond A	145.7	-0.8
Lodan	125	9.8
Lodzia 1	1258	0
Lodzia 4	4700	0
Luhot Gall	19	0
Luhot Gall Bond 1	139.4	0
Lumir	3000	3.4
Ma'ariv Bond A	142.7	0
Maabarot	1065	-5.8
Macpell	460	0
Macpell Bond A	144	0
Macpell Bond B	133.7	0
Macpell Bond C	74.3	-0.8
Macpell Warrant 3	16	-10
Mafil	421	5.5
Magam	150	0
Magam Bond A	191	0
Magam Bond B	132.1	0
Magav	130	0
Magma	212	0
Magor 1	1645	0
Magor 5	7400	0
Magor hldgs. Bond B	84.3	0.4
Magor hldgs. Warrant 2	312	0
Maisel	245	2.9
Mall	78.5	0
Malta	480	0
Man	59	0
Man Bond A	240	0
Manor	29.3	0
Marathon	90	0.1
Marathon insured	103.1	-1.4
Mario Laznick Constr. Bond 1	179	0
Mario Laznick Constr. Bond 2	180	0
Maritime Bank	1240	1.6
Maritime Bank Bond B	148.8	0
Mashav	898	0
Mashbir	581	0

	LAST	CHANGE*
Mashov	454	5.1
Mashov	328	11.2
Matam	1548	0
Matav Warrant 1	1275	0
Maxima 1	375	0
Maxima 5	1403	0
Mazzak	800	5.4
Med. Hotels	33.9	0
Medtechnica	549	2.6
Medtechnica Bond A	145	0
Medtechnica Bond B	83.3	0
Medtechnica Warrant 2	35	-12.5
Megason	57.5	0
Meimad	1875	0
Meir Ezra	1388	-2.1
Meir Ezra Bond B	0	0
Melet	264	0
Melissaron Bond B	95	-0.1
Melissaron Warrant 3	37	0
Mendelson	291	0
Menofim	24	0
Menorah Ins. 5	6700	-0.7
Mercazit	665	0
Merhav	125.5	-3.3
Meytavit	113	0
Middle East Tube	198	0
Middle East Tube Bond A	114.5	0
Middle East Tube Warrant 2	1	0
Milmor Bond A	137	-1.4
Millomar Bond B	75.5	0
Milomar Warrant 2	55	0
Milomor	1447	0
Mimcar	132.9	0
Mini Line	857	0
Minrav	13060	2
Mirage	160	0
Mirage Bond A	136	0
Miromit	60	0
Mishmael	19	0
Mishmael Bond B	58	0
Mishor Bond 2	155.5	0.3
Mishor Hahof	354	4.1
Miterani	126	0
Mivtach Shamir	1150	0
Mizrahi Inv.	9940	0
Mizrahi warrant 2	60.0	2.4
MM Engineering	101	0
MM Engineering Bond A	71.0	0
Modgal	770	0
Modin	1	0
Moffet	160.9	1
Moffet Convertible Bond AAA	215	0
Molett	852	0
More Plastic Ind.	352	0
Moshkovitz	162	0
MTI Computers	266	-9.8
Mul-T-Lock	570	0
Mula Senter	223	0
Nachshon Fund	36	0
Nephtha	23	0.9
Naphtha Oil Exp.	28.8	8.7
Natour	650	0
NATSVA BOND A	109	0
Navigator	222	0
Navigator Property	914	0.4
Nechushtan Bond B	71	0
Nechushtan Prop.	155.9	0
Nechushtan Properties Bond A	145	0
Nechushtan Warrant 1	20	0
Negev Ceramics	186.3	0
Nehushtan 1	481	1.9
Nehushtan 5	2600	0
Neot Aviv	7000	0
Nesua	427	0
Neve Arbel	185	0
Nevlim Hotels	364	0
Neviot	835	0
Nia	244	0
Nilow	810	0
Nisco	1899	0
Nissan	255	0
NMC	240	0
Noga	1590	0
Noga Insorens	78.3	0
Nordan	13.4	0
Nordan Tech.	500	0
Norlok	575	0
Norlok Bond A	151	0
Nur	63	0
NYP.	1200	0
Oceana	272	0
Ocif	8010	1.4
Ocif Bond A	181.6	-0.1
Ocif Bond C	91.5	-0.3
Ocif Warrant 2	639	-14.8
Octova	495	0
Ofek	220	-3.9
Ofer Bro	6700	0
Offis	950	2.2
Ogdan	61	0
Onekav	588	0
Oil Fields	2.2	10
Oki-Dok	250	0
Omni	253	0
Omnitech	210	0
Ophir	299	7.2
Ophir Tours	440	0
Oppenheimer	88	0
Optima	143	0
Orasys	2690	0
Orazit	500	0
Orazit Bond A	172.4	0
Orbit	760	-4.9
Orda	2490	0
Orda Bond 7	195.8	0
Orev	600	0
Oref	111.9	0
Orife	312	-1.9
Orfee Bond A	91.7	-0.9
Orfea Warrant 2	48	0
Ormat Industries Bond D	135	0
Ormat Industries Warrant 5	10	7.5
Ortal	385	0
Ortar Hashiton	22600	0
Oz	141.4	9.6
Oz aside	375	0
Packer Steel	5700	0
Paltough	779	-0.1
PAM	339	1.5
Pama	605	0
Pamas	[illegible]	0
Pan Dor	280	0
Pardes	600	0
Pardes Bond A	42	0
Passport	1500	0
Paz Chen	520	0
PCB	1000	0
Pdan Investment	36.4	0
Pereg	123	0
Penclase	957	2.9
Phoenix Ins. 5	3220	0
Pica Plast	300	1.7
Pilat	84.5	-8.0
Pinros	130	0
Pinros Bond A	146	0
Pitkit	404	0
Plason bond a	101.5	0
Plason warrant 1	325	0
Plasto Sac	545	0.3
Plasto Shack Bond A	88.0	0
Plasto Shack Warrant 2	60	0
Poalim Inv. Bond B	93.8	0.6
Poalim Inv. Warrant 3	1950	0
Poalim Investments Bond A	140.1	0.1
Polak	220	0
Polgat A	390	4
Polgat B 4	1480	2.8
Polygon	2000	0
Poraz	205	0
Pori	115	0
Poseidon	90.6	0
Pri Haemek	21	0
Pri Haemek Bond A	35.1	0
Pritzker	182	0
Pritzkar Bond A	162.5	0
Profit	440	0
Profit Bond A	138	-0.4
Python	469	0
Quality Cap Mills	400	0
Rabinian	215	0
Ram Zur	60	0
Ramgor 1	170	0
Ramgor 4	455	0
Rapak	2100	1.4
Rapak Bond A	160	0
Rassco	1400	0
Ratio	1	0
Rav Car	178	0
Ravad	143	0
RDC	899	0
RDC Bond A	150.5	0
Red Sea Hotels	725	2.8
Regency	108	0
Regency Bond 1	128.5	0
Regent Bond A	156	0
Rekah	400	0
Roshet	55	0
Roshet Bond B	108	-8.1
Rimoni	755	0
Rogosin	1950	1.1
Rogozin Bond A	83.9	-0.1
Rogozin Warrant B	425	-7.4
Romtech	430	0
Rosebud	87	-3.3
Rosental	95	0
Rotem	246	0
Rotshtein	120	0
Rotshtein Bond A	139.8	0
RSL	550	0
Sadot Mop Bond A	101.5	0
Sagus Prop. Bond 1	32.9	0
Sahar Bond a	94.8	0.2
Sahar Dev.	2790	7.7
Sahar Securities	560	0
Sahar Warrant 1	390	0
Saniacol	320	0
Sano 1	2850	0
Sano 5	12600	-10.0
Scope	1160	-1.6
Scope Bond A	94	0
Scope Warrant 2	86	0
Sea Trade	482	0
Secom	272	0
Securitas	880	0
Securitas Bond A	160.2	0
Selen	1180	0
Serafon	365	0
Shaked	328	0
Shamir	578	0
Shatiyah	900	0
Shel	209	0
Shekel	220	0
Shekel Bond A	156	0
Shekem	66.8	1.2
Shekem Bond 1	153.2	0
Shelag	115.1	0.5
Shem Tov	305	0
Shemen	11600	0
Shiadot	65	0
Shlomo Angel	5800	0
Shmi c2	86.0	0
Shmi w2	192	0
Shmira	796	0.1

	LAST	CHANGE*
Shmira Bond A	159.0	0
Shriv	545	8.6
Shtang	86	0
Shulamit	439	6.6
Shulamit Bond A	146.9	0
Sinai	693	0
Sinai Bond A	154.1	0
Solel Bone Bond A	109.9	0
Soil BoneR1	39.5	-2.5
Soleg	576	-27.9
Solomon	576	0
solomon bond a	80	0
Solomon Holdings	370	0
solomon warrant 2	59	0
South Pipe	353	0
Spancrit	175	0
Spectronix 1	1230	1.3
STG	1053	0
STG Bond A	110	-0.1
Sunfrost	3910	0
Sony Electronics	710	-1.3
Synopsis	172	0
Synopsis Bond A	151.1	0
Syntec	308	0
Ta'al	137	0
Tachol Bond B	80	0
Tachol Warrant 3	66.6	0
Tadbik	220	10
Tadiran Appl	501	0.6
Tal	130	0
Tal Bond A	39	0
TAP Bond 1	285	0
Tashloz bond a	121.6	0
Tashloz warrant 2	184.1	0
Tashluz	0	0
Tashluz Bond A	156.6	0
Tashluz Bond B	146.4	0
Taste of Israel	176	0
TAT 1	435	0
TAT 5	1324	-2
Tava	870	-5.2
Tava Comm. 1	350	3.9
Team Computers	5550	0.9
Technoplast	667	0
Tedea	1360	1.5
Tedea Bond A	109.2	0
Tedea Warrant 1	136	0
Tefahot Preferred	166900	0
Telen	1630	0
Teldor	507	0
Telsis	1190	-0.8
Telsis Warrant 1	300	0
Tene	198	0
Teuza	185	1.5
Teuza insurance	194.4	0.2
Tibon Veal	132.0	0
Tim Warrant 3	530	0
Tiv	369	0
TMM	141	2.0
Tobias	1565	0
Tom	1050	0
Topline	330	0
Topline Bond 2	167	-0.9
Topper	45.2	0
Trust Compounds	379	0
Trade	371	0
Trada Bond A	215	0
Trend Line	1900	0
Trocadero	36	0
Trydkal	513	0
Tsabar	131	-2.1
Tsartab	599	0
Tsarfan Bond A	154	-0.1
Tsur	150	0
Tsur Bond A	159	0
Tsur Bond B	120	0
Tsur Bond C	100.4	0
Tsur Preferred	155	0
Tuttanauer	910	1.1
Tzmicha	486	0
Ulsko	38	0
Unibar 1	754	0
Unibar 5	794	0
Umco	4500	0
Unicom 1	32.6	0
Unicom Bond 1	300	0
Unidress	2670	0
United Steel	129.4	-4.1
United Steel Industries Bond 1	150	0.1
Univercol	500	0
Urdan	273	-1.4
Vardinon	26000	0
Vardinon Bond A	168.5	1.1
Vardinon Convertible Bond AAA	154	0
Videomatrix	28.7	0
Vilar	444	0
Vilar Bond 1	161	0
Vita Food	1200	0
Vilger Bond A	156	-0.3
Vitalgo	365	0
Vitalgo Bond A	133.8	0
Vulcan	491	0
Wili Bond A	87	0
Wili Warrant 1	325	0
Woolfman 1	500	0
Woolfman 5	2250	8.1
Woollson	67000	0
Ya'ara	871	0
Yaacobi	120	4.9
Yaad Bond A	186.8	0
Yaad Bond B	90.6	0
Yaad Industries	328	0
Yaad Warrant 3	60	0
Yad	490	0
Yamit	186	0
Yarden	411	-4.9
Yarden Bond 2	131	-3
YDPZ	270	0
YDPZ Bond A	158.2	0
Yeda	1580	0
Yehuda	209	0
Yesh Gad	38.7	0
Yhsal	1620	0
Yhchal Warrant 1	344	-3.1
Yona Bond A	162.6	-0.9
Yona Hotels	199	0
Yozma	432	0
Yuval	124	0
Zalmr	565	0
Zanes Holdings	54.5	0
Zarfan Bond B	50.8	0.7
Zarfan Warrant 2	21	-19.2
Zaf	84	7.7
Zehavi	150	0
Zeller Ablagon	417	0
Zeller Ablagon Bond A	157.5	0
Zeller Ablagon Bond B	117	0
Zeller Inv Bond A	63.6	0
Zeller Inv. Warrant 1	3.5	0
Zika 1	565	0
Zika 5	2540	0
Zilot 1	2750	0
Zilot 5	10100	0
Zinometal	540	0
Zion Cables 1	235	0
Zion Holdings	14900	0
Zion Textiles	218	-5.2
Ziv	205	0
Zohar	278	0
Zoko	266	-7.3

ISRAEL SHARES ABROAD

AMEX

Am Israel Paper Mills	37.25	0
Ampal American Israel	4.0625	-0.125
Carmel Container Sys	6	0
Electro Chemical Ind	0.6875	+0
Emultek	7.6875	+0.4375
Etz Lavud	8.5	0
Etz Lavud Cl A	5.5	0
Integrated Technology	1.5	0

NASDAO

ACS Electronics Ltd	1.875	-0.03125
Accent Software	0.28125	+0
A.G. Associates	5.3125	+0.0625
Aladdin	11.125	-0.5
Ampal	12.3125	-0.0625
Arel Commun & Software	5.625	+0.1875
Arel Comm & Soft Warrant	0.75	+0.125
Better Online Solutions	4.5	-0.25
Better Online Sol Ltd 99	0.3125	-0.125
Biogen Inc	92	-0.375
Bio Technology General	7.125	+0.21875
B.V.R. Systems Ltd	9	+0.75
B.V.R. Technologies	2.5	+0
Checkpoint Software	39	-2.875
Cimatron	1.6875	+0
Comverse Technology	69.4375	-0.375
Crystal Systems Solutions	8.625	-0.125
D.S.P.G Group	14.25	+0
D.S.P.T. Tech	6.5	+0
Data Systems Software	2	-0.125
ECI Telecom	34.375	-0.125
Edusoft	7.625	-0.0625
Electric Fuel	3.5	+0.0625
Electronics for Imaging	33.6875	+0.1875
Elbit Computers	3.5625	+0.1875
Elron Electronics ord	10	+1.1875
Elbit Medical Imaging	11.0625	+0.25
Elbit Systems Ltd	13.125	+0.25
Eltek Circuit Boards	0.9375	+0.0625
Engel General Developers	2.125	0
ESC Medical Systems Ltd	5.25	+0.0625
Elbit Vision Systems	1.78125	+0.03125
Eshed Robotec (1982)	0.4375	0
Formula Systems (1985)	24.5	+1.9375
Forsoft Ltd	10.0625	-0.0625
Fundtech	21.9375	+0.1875
Galileo	19.125	-0.875
G.Will-Food	1.125	-0.03125
Gilat Comm Ltd	9.1875	+0.0625
Gilat Satellite Networks	59.625	-0.5
Genesis Bria	4	-0.375
Healthcare Technologies	1	+0
Home Center	9.5	-0.5
I.C.T.S.	5.3125	-0.5
IIC Industries	9.25	+0
I I S Intelligent info	0.65625	-0.09375
Israel Land Develop ADR	15	+0.5
Indigo	4.375	+0.25

	LAST	CHANGE*
ISG Intl Software Group	11.25	-0.125
Isramco	2.125	+0.1875
Lan Optics	1.875	+0
Logal	0.5625	+0.0625
Level 8 Systems	10.6875	-0.0625
M-Systems Flash Disk	3.875	-0.0625
Madge	3.4375	+0
Magal Security Systems	2.84375	+0.09375
Mativ	22.75	-0.875
Medis El	6.5	-0.125
Memco	11.25	-0.1875
Mer Telemanagement	1.6875	+0
Mercury	57.875	+0.3125
Magic Software Enterprises	5.375	+0
Netmanage	2.625	-0.1875
New Dimension Software	50	-0.5
Nexus Telecomm Sys Ltd	2.4375	-0.0625
Nice Systems	24.25	+1.4375
Neuro-Medical Systems	0.34375	+0
Noga Electro Mechanical	0.875	+0
Nur Tecnology	3.28125	+0.21875
Opo Systems Solutions	8.375	-0.25
Optomedics Medical Tech	1	+0
Optomedics Medical Warrant	0.3125	0
Orbit/FR Inc	2	-0.03125
Orbotech	42.75	-0.25
Orckit	17	-0.375
Oshap Technologies	8.1875	+0.4375
Paradigm Geophys	5	0
Pharmos	1.375	-0.03125
Point of Sale	6.5	-0.125
Rada Electronics Ind	1.03125	-0.03125
Radcom Ltd	3.1875	+0.1875
RIT Technologies	1.625	-0.0625
RSL Communications	27.25	+0.75
Scitex Corporations	8.6875	+0.1875
Silicom	1.6875	+0
Summit Design	4.0625	-0.0625
Sapiens International	9	-0.0625
Scanvec	2.25	+0.125
Tadiran Telecomm	19.25	+0.25
Taro Pharmaceuticals Ind	5.5	+0
Tat Technologies	1.5625	+0
Technomatix Technologies	13.4375	+0.4375
Teva	40.125	+0.25
Top Image Systems	4.1875	-0.5625
Top Image Systems Warrant	0.6875	+0.125
Tower Semiconductor	6.9375	-0.0625
TTI Team Telecom Intl Ltd.	8.625	+0.375
TVG Technologies	0.96875	+0.15625
TVG Tech A	0.125	0
TVG Tech B	0.1075	-0.125
TVG Tech C	0.15625	-0.0625
Vocaltec	12.125	-0.75
Wiz Tec Solutions	16.375	+0
Zoran Corporation	17.25	-0.125

NYSE

Amdocs	25.3125	+0.3125
Blue Square	11.75	0
D.S.P. Communications	17.5	+0.0625
Elscint	11.625	-0.125
First Israel Fund	11.4375	+0.1875
PEC Israel Economic Corp	26.5	+0.0625
Koor	18	+0.5
Semula Inc	5.375	-0.5
Super-Sol Ltd	12.0625	+0.4875
Tadiran	-	-
Tetron Ltd	7.625	+0

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 16-FEB-99)

LONDON

Batm Advanced	201	-0.5
Dmatek Ltd	29	+0
Pilat	13.5	+0
S.E.A. Multimedia	-	-

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 16-FEB-99)

INTERNATIONAL SHARES

NEW YORK

Aza	53.9375	-0.1875
AMP Inc	52.625	+0.3125
AMR Corp	55	-0.125
ASA	16.75	-0.6875
Abbot Labs	46.9375	+1.9375
Advanced Micro	17.0625	-0.5
Aetna Life	80.0625	+2.0625
Affiliated Publ	16	+0.875
Aflac	48.9375	-0.5
Air Prods	33.5625	-0.6875
Alberto-Culv B	25.625	+0.25
Albertson's	56.5	+0.5625
Alcan Aluminum	23.8125	-0.75
Allied Signal	43.25	+0.25
Alcoa	80.875	-3.8125
Amazon	98.625	-5.875
Amerada Hess	48.125	-0.375
Amer Brands	21	+0.0625
Amer El Power	41.375	+0.8125
Amer Express	102.188	+2.25
Amer Genl Corp	67.3125	+1.875
Amer Greeting	35.5	+0.875
Amer Home Pr	59.25	+0.875
Amer Intl	113.188	+8.1875
Amer Natl Ins	80.375	+0.375
Amer Power Conv	39.125	+1.125
Amer Stores	32.9375	+0.6875
Amer T & T	84.5	-1.375
Amer West Hldg	20	+0
Ameritech	62.75	+1.8125
Ametek Inc	17.125	-0.5
Amgen	122.25	+2
Amoco	-	-
Analog Devices	30.875	+0.3125
Andrew Corp	16.5625	+0.0625
Anheuser-Busch	72	+0.125
Aon Corp	58.5625	+2.4375
Apple Computer	38.3125	+0.625
Applied Magnetics	4.75	-0.125
Applied Materials	68.25	+1.375
Archer Daniels	15.625	+0.125
Armco	4.8125	-0.25
Armstrong World	51.5	+0.1875
Asarco	13.375	-0.5
Ascend	72.8125	+1.5625
Ashland Coal	10.3125	+0
Ashland Oil	46	+0.3125
Atlantic Energy	21.125	+0.3125
Atlantic Richfld	57.875	-0.9375
Auto Data Pro	41.375	+0.25
Autodesk	42.125	-0.25
Avery Dennison	52.1875	+0.75
Avnet Inc	41.375	+1
Avon Products	43.4375	+0.8125
Bamco Corp	5.9375	+0.375
Baker Hughes	16.75	-0.375
Ball Corp	42.3125	+0.1875
Baltimore Gas	26	+0
Banc One Corp	50.125	+1.0625
Bandag	33.625	-1.25
BankAmerica	64.625	+1.75
Bank of Boston	37.1875	+1.375
Bank of New Yk	35.75	+0.625
Bankers Trst NY	86.6875	+0.6875
Barnes & Noble	35.5625	+0.6875
Battle Mount Gd	3.5625	-0.1875
Bausch & Lomb	58.75	-0.4375
Baxter Intl	68.5625	+0.875
Becton Dickinson	34.4375	-0.4375
Bed Bath & Bynd	29.75	-0.3125
Bell Atlantic	57.875	+0.0625
Bell Industries	11.3125	+0.0625
BellSouth	49.5	+4.8125
HA Belo Corp	17.5625	-0.4375
Beneficial Corp	20.25	0
Bethlehem Steel	8.375	-0.5625
Beverly Entprs	5.125	+0.125
Biomet	36.8125	+1.625
Black & Decker	48.9375	-2
Boeing	35.8125	+0.25
Boise Cascade	29.9375	+0
Books a Million	11.9375	+0.125
Borden Inc	21.75	+0.0625
Bowater Inc	39.75	+1.3125
Briggs & Strtn	50.8125	-0.4375
Brstl Myrs Sqb	126.313	+0.875
Brit Airws ADR	67.25	+3.1875
Brit Steel ADR	30	-0.8125
Brit Telecom	174.813	+7.5625
Brown Group	15.3125	-0.1875
Brown & Sharpe	7.625	-0.125
Browning Ferris	31.875	-0.125
Brunswick	21.25	+0.0625
Burlington Nthn	34.375	+0.5625
Burlington Res	32.9375	-0.6875
CBS Inc	37.125	+0.4375
CMS Energy Corp	41.0625	+0.3125
CSX Corporation	41.0625	+0.3125
Cabot Corp	25.3125	-0.9375
Campbell Soup	40.6875	+0.4375
Canadian Pac	19.5625	+0.4375
Capital Cts ABC	52	+0.3125
Capstead	4.8125	-0.125
Caremark Corp	15.875	-0.375
Carnival Corp	42.8125	-0.1875
Carolina Pwr Lt	39.5	+0.5
Carpenter Tech	27.5625	-0.3125
Caterpillar	45.25	+0.4375
Centex Corp	42.3125	+0.125
Central & SW	24.8125	+0.375
Ceridian	74.875	+0.625
Champion Intl	35.1875	-0.4375
Chrmg Shoppes	3.75	+0
Chase Manhattan	77.6875	+3.625
Chevron Corp	79.5	-0.375
Citigroup Inc	53.4375	+1.5625
Chiquita Brands	9.0625	-0.125
Cholestec	2.125	-0.1875
Chubb Corp	60.625	+3
Cisco	99.0625	+0
Clevel Cliffs	36	-0.75
Clorox	129.063	-0.4375
Coastal Corp	31.125	-0.625
Coca Cola	64.675	+1

	LAST	CHANGE*
Coca Cola Ent	33.5	+1.0625
Colgate Palmolv	88.6875	-0.125
Comcast Corp A	84.375	+0.1875
Compaq	42.875	-0.125
Compute Ass Int	45.0625	+0.5625
Computer Sci	71.9375	+0.5
Conagra	32	+1.3125
Cons Edison	48.875	+1.125
Cons Freghtwys	42.5625	+1.375
Cons Nat Gas	51.1875	-0.375
Cooper Inds	42.5625	+0.4375
Coors (Adolph)	58.875	+0.75
Corning Inc	48.8125	+0.8125
Crane	27.125	+0.75
Crompton Knowles	17.6875	-0.375
Crown Cork Seal	29.25	-0.4375
Cummins Engine	40.1875	+1.1875
Curtiss-Wright	37.25	+0.1875
Cypress Semicon	9.75	-0.0625
Cyprus Mineral	10.875	-0.1875
Cytec Indust	25.375	+0.0625
Daimlerchrysle	94.5625	+0.625
DQE	38.5	-0.5625
Dallas Semi	35.1875	-0.4375
Dana Corp	38.5	+0
Data General	16.0625	-0.6875
Dayton Hudson	63.75	+3.1875
De Beers	18.5	+0.125
Deere	33.3125	+0.6875
Dell Computers	88.75	-1.125
Delta Air Lines	52.5	-0.0625
Deluxe Corp	33.875	-0.125
Detroit Edison	38.8125	+0.5625
Dial Corp Del	30.25	-0.125
Diebold Inc	30.4375	+0.1875
Dillard Dep St	25.625	+0.25
Disney (Walt)	35.0625	-0.375
Dominion Res	42.4375	-0.625
Donelley (RR)	36.5	-0.125
Dover Corp	31.875	+0.25
Dow Chemicals	94.25	+0.5625
Dow Jones	45.375	-0.25
Duke Power	58.375	+0.5
Dun & Bradst	31	+0
Du Pont	52.8125	-1.1875
E G & G Corp	26.8125	-0.0625
Eastern Ents	38.4375	-0.0625
Eastman Kodak	66	-0.375
Eaton Corp	65.6875	-0.6875
Eggheaad Com	18.875	+1.5625
Emerson Elec	56.8125	+0.8125
Engelhard Corp	18.4375	-0.8125
Enron Corp	63.125	+0.4375
Entergy Corp	28.375	-0.0625
Enzo Biochem	11.875	+1.375
Equifax Inc	36.75	-0.125
Ericsson	26.125	-0.25
Ethyl Corp	5.5625	+0.0625
Exide Corp	16.1875	-0.1875
Exxon	68.5625	-0.875
FMC Corp	53.875	+0.3125
FPL Group	50.875	-0.5625
Fedders Corp	5.5	+0
Federal Exprss	83.5	+0.75
Federal Mogul	50.5625	-2.5
Fed Nat Mtge	72.1875	+2.75
First Union	51.3125	+0.5625
Fruit of the Loom	14.5625	+0.125
Fst Union Rlty	4.4375	+0.125
Fleet Fnl Grp	41.375	+1.3125
Fleetwd Enterp	34.25	+0.1875
Fleming Cos Ok	8.625	-0.3125
Florida Prog	39.75	+0.25
Fluor Corp	36.5625	-0.4375
Food Lion Inc	9.9375	+0.1875
Ford Motor	57.4375	-0.4375
Fortune Brands	30	+0
Foster Wheeler	12.0625	+0.25
Furniture Brands	23.1875	-0.125
Gateway 2000	69.875	-0.375
GATX Corp	35.4375	-0.125
GTE Corp	65.375	+0.25
Gannett	67.4375	+0.1875
Gap Inc Del	61.5	+1.0625
Gencorp	19.9375	-0.8125
Gen Am Invest	33.75	+0.4375
Gen Dynamics	58.75	+0.625
Gen Electric	98.75	+1.125
Gen Mills	82.625	+0.5625
Gen Motors	83.0625	-0.75
Gen Motors H	45.5	-1.6875
Gen Public Util	41.1875	-0.25
Gen Reinsurnce	-	
Gen DataComm	2.4375	-0.125
Genuine Parts	30.25	-0.8125
Georgia Pac	66.3125	+1.0625
Germany Fund	13.8125	+0
Gillette	55.375	+0
Glaxo ADR	65.625	+1.8125
Golden W Finl	95	+0.0625
Goodrich (BF)	32.9375	-0.625
Goodyear Tire	47.5	-0.6875
Grace (W&R)	13.625	-0.4375
Grainger (WW)	42.625	-0.875
Grt Atl Pac Tea	31.125	+0.4375
Grt Central Mine	2.6875	0
Gulf Canada Rec	2.4375	+0
Halliburton	30.25	-0.0625
Hanna (MA)	10.6875	+0.125
Harcourt	47.5	+0.875
Harley Davidson	50.5	+1.1875
Harnischfeger	7.6875	+0.1875
Harrah's Ent	14.75	+0
Harris Corp	35.0625	+0.25
Harsco Corp	28.75	+0
Hartmarx	4.6875	-0.25
Hasbro	39.5625	+0.5625
HBO & Co	[illegible]	[illegible]
Health Care Ppt	27.0625	+0.4375
Hecla Mining	3.6875	-0.1875
Heinz (HJ)	55.625	+1.25
Helix Technol	22.7188	+0.65625
Hmrch & Payne	16.4375	-0.1875
Hercules	28	-0.75
Hershey Foods	61.0625	+1.5625
Hewlett Packard	73.25	-3.1875
Hilton Hotels	14.9375	+0.25
Hirsch Int	3.25	+0
Hollinger	11.875	+0.125
Home Depot	58.0625	+1.1875
Homestake	9.5	-0.1875
Honeywell	72.5	-0.375
Hormel (Geo)	36.8125	+0.125
Household Intl	40.3125	-0.8125
Houston Inds	-	
Humana	17.4375	+0.0625
IBM	172.5	-0.25
Illinova Corp	23.4375	-0.1875
Illinois Tool	67.3125	-0.375
INCO	11.1875	-0.3125
Ind Comon Bank	14.6875	+0.1875
Ingersoll Rand	49.875	+0.625
Inland Steel	15.5	-0.875
Intel Corp	126.25	-0.25
Intergraph	5.8125	+0.3125
Interlake	-	
Intl Flav & Fr	40.9375	-0.0625
Intl Multifoods	21.75	-0.375
Intl Paper	41.9375	-0.8125
Interpublic	76.1875	+0.8125
Jefferson Plt	67.125	+0.0625
Johnson & J	86.625	+2
K Mart	17.25	+0.75
K Tel Int	9.375	-0.5625
Kaiser Alum	4.9375	+0.125
Kellogg	38.875	+0.3125
KLA Instruments	60.5	+0.4375
Kennametal	20.9375	+0.25
Kerr-McGee	29.375	-0.625
KeyCorp	30.5625	-0.25
Kimberly-Clark	48.5	-0.3125
King World Prod	27.3125	-0.125
Knight Ridder	50.0625	+0.375
Kroger	62.875	+2.375
LSI Logic	27.0625	+0.125
Legget & Platt	21.1875	+0.4375
Leucadia Natl	30.25	+0
Lilly (Eli)	89.375	-0.8125
Limited Inc	36.9375	+1.4375
Linear Technol	102.25	+1.25
Lincoln Nat	86.5	+2.375
Litton	53.875	+0.1875
Liz Claiborne	33.4375	+0.5625
Lockheed Corp	38.9375	+0.8125
Loews Corp	78.875	+0.9375
Lone Star	34	-0.0625
Longs Drug Strs	37.375	+0.8125
Loral Corp	18.1875	-0.4375
Louisiana Pacif	19.1875	+0.0625
Lowe's Co Inc	54.4375	+0.4375
Lucent Tech	98.25	+2
Lubrizol	21.75	+0.0625
Madge	3.4375	+0
Mallinckrodt	32.5	+0.5
Mapco Inc	14	+0.125
Marriott	36.8125	+1
Mrsh & McLn	67.3125	+1.1875
Masco Corp	30.625	-0.0625
Massmutual Corp	25	+0
Mattel Inc	27.0625	+0.5625
May Dept St	60.75	+1.3125
Maytag Corp	58.0625	+0.8125
McDermott	20.375	-0.375
McDonalds	81.8125	+0.5
McGraw Hill	107.563	-0.1875
McKesson Corp	72	+0.375
Mead Corp	29.25	-0.375
Medtronic	81.9375	-2.0625
Mellon Bk	67	+0.75
Mentor Graphics	13.3125	+0.9375
Merck Inc	154	+3.5
Meredith Corp	34.375	-0.1875
Merrill Lynch	69.5	+0.375
Micron Technol	65.0625	+0.5625
Microsoft Corp	156.25	-1.5
Millipore	26.625	+0.0625
Mine Safety App	62	+0
Minnesota Mine	76.4375	-0.9375
Mitchell Energy	11.75	-0.125
Mobil Corp	85.4375	-1.3125
Molex Inc	23.75	-0.875
Monarch Machr	6.8125	+0.15625
Monsanto	46.875	-0.5
Morgan (JP)	110.25	+1.875
Morton Intl	35.5625	-0.1875
Motorola Inc	65.0625	+0.0625
Murphy Oil	35	-1.625
Nacco Inds	85	-0.3125

	LAST	CHANGE*
Nalco Chemical	28.5625	-0.1875
Nashua Corp	12.5	+0.0625
Natl City Corp	71.625	+0.25
Natl Semi	11.4375	+0.1875
Natl Serv Ind	33.1875	-0.8125
NatWest Bank	131.063	+13.6875
Navistar Int	42.125	+7
Netscape	88.25	+1.3125
New England El	49.25	+0
News Corp	29.1875	-0.0625
NY Times	31.8125	-0.375
Newmont Mining	18.25	-1.1875
Niag Mohawk	13.8125	-0.1875
Nicor Inc	37.25	+0.125
Nike Inc	50.3125	+0.625
NL Industries	10	-0.5
Noble Affil	21.5	-0.5625
Nokia	133	-0.625
Nordstrom	40.625	+1.1875
Norfolk Southrn	28.625	+0.5625
Northeast Util	14.6875	-0.125
Northern Telecom	57.1875	-1.1875
Novell	18.5625	-0.25
Nthn State Pwr	26.625	+0.875
Northrop	60.875	-0.375
NSI	0.34375	+0
Occidental Pet	15.0625	+0.0625
Ogden Corp	25.25	+0
OEA	11.5625	-0.125
Ohio Casualty	38.125	-0.3125
Olin Corp	14.375	-0.5
Omnicom Group	65.1875	+1.8125
Oneok Inc	28	+0
Oracle Systems	53.4375	-3.25
Oryx Energy Co	10.6875	+0.0625
Oshkosh B'gosh	18.0625	+0.4375
Overseas Ship	13.3125	-0.3125
Owens Corning	33	+0.5625
PNC Financial	49.75	+0.875
PPG Industries	53.25	-1.125
Paccar Inc	42.5	+1.875
Pac Gas & Elect	31.1875	+0.375
Pall Corp	21	-0.9375
Parker Drilling	2.9375	+0
Parker Hannifin	36.125	-0.375
Payless Shoe	56.4375	+2.4375
Penney (JC)	38.625	+0.625
Penneyl Pwr Lt	25.625	+0.1875
Pennzoil	13	-0.5
People's Energy	32.4375	-0.1875
Pepsico	37.5	+0.375
Perkin Elmer	94.6875	-1.1875
Pfizer	130.813	+0.6875
Pharmacia & Upj	55	+0.5
Phelps Dodge	44.5	-1.3125
Philadel Elec	38.375	+0.5
Philip Morris	39.75	-0.6875
Philips Elec	69	-0.75
Philips Pet	39.8125	+0.125
Phycor Inc	5.96875	+0.09375
Pioneer Hi Bred	24.8125	-0.3125
Pitney Bowes	69.875	+3.3125
Policy Mgt Sys	38.8125	+1.1875
Polycom	19.875	-1.375
Polash Corp	57	-1.0625
Potomac El Pwr	24.0625	+0.75
Procter & Gamble	89.6875	+2.1875
Promus Hotel Cor	34.5625	+1.5625
Pub Svc Enterpr	37.0625	+0.5625
Pug Snd Pwr	23.625	+0.375
Quaker Oats	54.0625	+0.875
Qualcom	67.375	+0.4375
Quanex Corp	17.8125	-0.375
RJR Nabisco	26	+0.25
Ralston Purina	27.5625	+0.5
Rank Orgnsn ADR	8.625	+0
Raychem Corp	23.9375	+0.0625
Raytheon A	53.625	-1.4375
Raytheon B	53.9375	-1.1875
Reebok Intl	15.875	-0.5625
Republic NY	43.375	+1.5625
Reynolds Reyn A	20.3125	+0.4375
Reynolds Metals	44.75	-1
Rite Aid Corp	43.6875	-0.3125
Rockwell Intl	44.8125	+0.3125
Rohm & Haas	29.5625	-0.1875
Rouse	23.5	-0.375
Rowan	8.6875	-0.25
Royal Dutch	42.4375	-0.8125
Rubbermaid	34.6875	+0.0625
Ruddick	17	+0.0625
Russell Corp	19.4375	+0.3125
Ryder System	25.75	-0.125
SPS Technology	42	+1.5625
Safeco Corp	38.9375	+0.8125
Safety-Kleen	14.3125	-0.125
St Paul's Cos	32.0625	+1.625
Sara Lee Corp	26.1875	+1.0625
Schering Plough	54.75	-0.25
Schlumberger	49.6875	-0.625
Scientif Atlanta	32.125	+0.3125
Scripps	44.5	+0.3125
Seagate Tech	33.75	-0.5625
Seagram	48.875	+0.5
Sears Roebuck	41.25	+0.8125
Sempra Energy	22.0625	+0.4375
Sensormatic Elec	9.625	-0.8125
Sequent Computer	8.6875	-0.3125
Service Corp I	17.375	-0.6875
Service Master	18.8125	-0.25
Shell Trans	32.3125	-0.3125
Sherwin Willms	24.75	-0.25
Shoney's Inc	2.5	-0.25
Sigma Aldrich	26.625	-0.625
Silicon Graphics	16.75	-0.5625
Skyline Corp	29.1875	-0.0625
Smith Intl	25.3125	+0.0625
SmKline Bchm A	71.125	+3
Snap-On-Tools	30.9375	+0.5
Sonat	25.0625	+0.5625
Sonoco Prods	25.75	-0.0625
Sony Corp ADR	73.9375	+1.875
Southdown	49.875	-0.25
Southern Co	25.1875	+0.3125
Southw Airlines	29.0625	+0.375
SBC Sthwstn Bell	50.875	+0.0625
Spring Inds	36.125	-0.5625
Sprint Corp	81.75	+1.8125
Standard Prods	19	+0
Stanley Works	25.375	+0.125
Storage Technol	37	-1
Sun America	1.125	-0.0625
Sunbeam Corp	6.0625	-0.1875
Sun Company	33.75	+0.0625
Sundstrand	52.75	-0.3125
Sun Microsystems	100.438	+0
Sunshine Mining	0.6875	-0.0625
Suntrust	67.4375	-0.0625
Supervalu	25.25	-0.125
Symantec	18.3125	-0.21875
Sysco Corp	26.0625	+0
TJX Cos Inc	29.4375	+0.6875
TRW Inc	49.0625	+1
Tab Products	5.75	+0
Tandy Corp	52.875	+0.5
Telecom Corp	83.5	-1.125
Telefonos de Mex	53.5625	+0.8125
Telef De Espana	134.25	+0.125
Temple Inland	58.3125	+0.0625
Tenneco	29.4375	-0.5
Tenet Health	19.875	+0.6875
Teradyne	60	+1.5
Tesoro Pet	8.875	-0.0625
Texaco	49.875	-0.3125
Texas Instruments	91.5625	-1.8125
Texas Utilities	41.9375	+1.0625
Textron	75.625	+1.375
Thomas & Betts	42.4375	-0.125
ThreeCom	31.875	-0.375
Time Warner	63.5	+2.375
Times-Mirror	56.3125	+0.25
Timken	18.125	-0.375
Torchmark	32.8125	+0.75
Tosco Corp	21.1875	-0.0625
Toys R Us	15.0625	+0.75
Transamerica	55.8125	+1.5125
Transco Energy	58.875	-1.5
Tribune	64.25	+0.125
Triton Energy	8.1875	-0.125
TWA	5.9375	-0.125
Tyco Intl Ltd	75.625	+1.5
Tyler	4.875	-0.25
UAL Corp	59.375	-0.625
USG Corp	54.25	+0.5
UST Inc	27.875	-0.9375
USX Marathon	22.5	-0.3125
USX-US Steel	26.6875	-0.9375
Ultramar Diam	19.4375	-0.125
Unicom Corp	35.5625	+0.3125
Unilever PLC	39.375	+1.1875
Unilever NV	75	+2.375
Union Camp	65.75	+0.1875
Union Carbide	38.8125	-2.4375
Union Pacific	48.9375	+0.4375
Unisys Corp	32.8125	+0.3125
USAIR Group	44.625	-0.25
US Home	35.375	-0.3125
US Trust	71.125	-0.125
US West	59.875	+0
United Tech	121.5	+2.5
Unocal Corp	28.9375	-0.9375
VF Corp	49.5625	+0.9375
VMRX Pharmaceutic	1.28125	-0.03125
Valero Energy	18.9375	-0.125
Varian Assoc	33.25	+1.5
Viacom Inc	82.25	+0.625
Vishay	12.25	-0.5
Vulcan Materials	136.625	+0.25
Wachovia	86.875	+1.875
Walgreen	32	+1.8125
Wal-Mart Stores	87.5625	+3.1875
Warner-Lambert	69.25	+0.125
Wash Gas Light	22.75	-0.375
Washington Post	561.625	+8.625
Waste Mgmnt Inc	50.9375	-0.3125
Watkins-Johnson	23.875	-0.125
Weis Markets	37	+0
Wells Fargo	35.0625	+0.9375
Wendy's Intl	23.0625	-0.125
Westvaco	22.4375	-0.0625
Weyerhaeuser	52.9375	-0.0625
Whirlpool	42.6875	-1.5
Whitman	18.9375	+0
Williams Co	34.5625	-0.9375
Winn Dixie Stos	42.8125	+1.1875
Woolworth	4.3125	-0.1875
World Comm	83	+3.5625
Worthington Ind	13.1875	-0.25

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ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates)

Currency (deposit for:)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar ($250,000)	4.770	4.800	5.090
Pound sterling (£100,000)	5.550	5.540	5.620
German mark (DM 200,000)	2.180	2.280	2.700
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.060	0.190	0.560
Yen (10 million yen)	—	—	—

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (16.2.99)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Buy	Sell	BANKNOTES Buy	Sell	Rep. Rates**
Currency basket	4.3481	4.4183	—	—	4.3778
U.S. dollar	4.0208	4.0855	3.96	4.14	4.0510
EU euro	4.4996	4.5722	—	—	4.5276
German mark	2.3006	2.3378	2.27	2.37	2.3149
Pound sterling	6.5732	6.6793	6.47	6.77	6.6023
French franc	0.6860	0.6971	0.68	0.71	0.6902
Japanese yen (100)	3.4219	3.4771	3.37	3.52	3.4373
Dutch florin	2.0419	2.0748	2.02	2.10	2.0545
Swiss franc	2.8145	2.8599	2.77	2.89	2.8321
Swedish krona	0.5078	0.5158	0.50	0.52	0.5110
Norwegian krone	0.5217	0.5302	0.51	0.54	0.5249
Danish krone	0.6052	0.6150	0.59	0.62	0.6088
Finnish mark	0.7568	0.7691	0.75	0.78	0.7615
Canadian dollar	2.6817	2.7250	2.64	2.76	2.6953
Australian dollar	2.5812	2.6229	2.54	2.65	2.5926
S. African rand	0.6532	0.6638	0.59	0.67	0.6571
Belgian franc (10)	1.1154	1.1334	1.10	1.15	1.1224
Austrian schilling (10)	3.2700	3.3228	3.23	3.37	3.2903
Italian lira (1000)	2.3239	2.3614	2.29	2.39	2.3383
Jordanian dinar	5.6548	5.7461	5.41	5.90	5.6976
Egyptian pound	—	—	1.15	1.23	1.1887
Irish punt	5.7133	5.8055	5.63	5.89	5.7490
Spanish peseta (100)	2.7043	2.7480	2.67	2.78	2.7211

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Foreign financial data courtesy of
CommStock Trading Ltd.
Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds
34 Ben Yehuda St., Jerusalem
Tel. 02-624-4963 Fax. 02-625-9515
http://www.commstock.co.il
E-mail: commstock@pobox.com

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Jerusalem Post Business Desk, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000

Wrigley	93	+1.5625
Xerox	114.75	-3.5
Yahoo	133.375	-17.625
Yellow Freight	16.9375	+0.1875

LONDON

Allied Domecq	468.5	+8.5
Allied Zurich	893	+11
BAT Inds	612.5	+15.5
BT	1078.5	+6
Barclays	1692	+104
Bass	798.5	-2.5
Boots	926.5	+32
British Airways	418	+15.75
Comm Union plc	966.5	+41
Diageo	652	+1.5
General Electric	516	+3.5
Glaxo	2025	+28
Halifax	770	+27.5
HSBC (75p shs)	1736	+58
ICI	544.5	+0.5
Land Securities	792.5	-8
Lloyds Bank	804.5	+22
Marks & Spencer	367.5	+0.5
NatWest Bank	1379	+95
Prudential	900	+30.5
Reuters	870	+24.5
Sainsbury	380	+1.75
Shell Transport	327.5	-9
Tyco Intl	4350	+100
Unilever	605	+23
Zeneca	2617	+56

PARIS

Accor	218	-4.3
Air Liquide	134	-2
Alcatel Alsthom	95.7	+1.7
Euro Disney	1.13	+0
Michelin B	40.5	-0.1
Moulinex	9.92	+0.51
Paribas	83.15	-1.85
Pernod Ricard	54.35	+0.85
Peugeot	128.5	-0.5
Saint Gobain	129.3	+1.3

FRANKFURT

Bayer	30.6	-0.3
Daimler-Benz	-	-
Lufthansa	13.15	+0.25
Mannesmann	-	-
Metallgesellschaft	16.85	-0.55
Volkswagen	65.15	-0.65

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 16-FEB-99)

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

	Last	Change
Sal (Basket) (1)	4.3778	0
U.S. Dollar (1)	4.051	0
British Pound (1)	6.6023	0
Deutsch Mark (1)	2.3149	0
French Franc (1)	0.6902	0
Japanese Yen (100)	3.4373	0
Swiss Franc (1)	2.8321	0
Canadian Dollar (1)	2.6953	0
Italian Lira (1000)	2.3383	0
Jordanian Dinar (1)	5.6976	0

NEW YORK MARKET INDEXES

	Last	Change
DJ Industrials	9297.03	+22.14
DJ Transport	3120.76	+23.87
DJ Utils	288.21	+1.77
DJ Comp	2847.9	+11.69
NYSE Industr	733.86	+3.79
NYSE Transport	468.03	+1.88
NYSE Comp	588.73	+5.27
S&P 100	619.71	+3.57

S&P Spot Index	1241.86	+11.73
Israel Index	281.3	-0.84

OTHER MARKET INDEXES

	Last	Change
FTSE 100	6108.6	+85.4
Tokyo Nikkei	14232.6	+177.9
Singapore all-share index	366.83	0
Hong Kong Hang Seng index	9402.3	0
Israel Index	281.3	-0.64
Paris CAC 40	4052.32	-12.87
DAX	4679.55	-9.19
Madrid	877.4	+12.54
Swiss Market Index	7015.2	+26.7
Sydney	2858.4	-18.4
Milan	1455.61	-6.91

DOLLAR CROSSRATES (US)

	Last	Change
Pound: spot	1.6337	+0.0078
Mar.future (CME)	1.633	+0.0028
D-mark: spot	1.7464	+0.0035
Mar.future (CME)	0.5737	-0.0039
S-franc: spot	1.4264	+0.0029
Mar.future (CME)	0.7035	-0.0048
Yen: spot	118.64	+2.91
Mar.future (CME)	0.008448	-0.000319
CanDlr: spot	1.4942	+0.001
Mar.future (CME)	0.6688	-0.001
AusDlr: spot	0.6351	-0.0106
Mar.future (CME)	0.6361	-0.0095
F-franc: spot	5.8539	+0.0117
It Lira: spot	1733.5	+8
Nlg: spot	1.9666	+0.0039
AutShlg: spot	12.2892	+0.0597
Rand: spot	6.155	+0.05
EURO: spot	1.1203	-0.0025

US COMMODITIES

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Mar) (CEC)	1280	+24
Coffee (Mar) (CEC)	100.95	-4.95
Wheat (Mar) (CBOT)	252.25	-5.25
Soybean (Mar) (CBOT)	487.75	-4.5
Orange juice (Mar)(CEC)	87.45	+0.8
Crude Oil (Mar)(NYMEX)	11.37	-0.51
Bonds Mar.future	12316	+27
S and P Mar.future	1242	+3.7

LONDON COMMODITIES

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Mar) (LCE)	918	+29
Coffee (Mar) (LCE)	1742	-38
Sugar (Mar) (LCE)	234.7	0
Brent crude oil (Mar)(IPE)	1010	0

SPOT MARKET METALS (US)

	Last	Change
Silver: spot	5.44	-0.3

NEW YORK METAL FUTURES

	Last	Change
Gold (Feb)	286.9	-3.6
Silver (Mar)	5.445	-0.217
Platinum (Apr)	357.2	-3.4
Palladium (Mar)	350	-7.9
High-grade copper (Mar)	0.6255	-0.0205

LONDON METAL FIXES

	Last	Change
Gold AM fix	288.05	-2
Gold PM fix	285.3	-3.9
Silver fix	568.5	-8.5

Month in parentheses signals contract exp. date
(Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)
SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 16-FEB-99)

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

Wednesday, February 17
EMERGENCY PHARMACIES
Jerusalem: Pharm-X, Center 1, 537-7667; Balsam, Salah e-Din, 627-2315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 581-0108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 628-2058.
Tel Aviv: New Pharm, 75 Ben-Yehuda, 529-0037; Superpharm Ministore, 4 Shaul Hamelech, 696-0106.
Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Superpharm, 3 Ostshinsky, Kfar Sva, 765-8889.
Netanya: Center Pharm, 1 King David, 884-1531.
Haifa: Superpharm Neveh Sha'anan, 54 Trumpeldor, 823-2569.
Krayot area: Kupat Holim Maccabi, 1 Moshe Goshen, Kiryat Motzkin, 871-7063.
Herzliya: New Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 954-9903. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Upper Nazareth: New Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 657-0468. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

DUTY HOSPITALS
Jerusalem: Shaare Zedek (internal, ophthalmology, ENT); Hadassah Ein Kerem (surgery, obstetrics); Hadassah Mt. Scopus (orthopedics); Bikur Holim (pediatrics).
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv Medical Center (surgery).
Netanya: Laniado.

POLICE 100
FIRE 102
FIRST AID 101
Magen David Adom
In emergencies dial 101 (Hebrew) or 911 (English) in most parts of the country. In addition:

Ashdod* 8551333	Kfar Sava* 9902222
Ashkelon 6551332	Nahariya* 9912333
Beersheba* 6274767	Netanya* 8604444
Beit Shemesh 6523133	Petah Tikva* 9311111
Dan Region* 5793333	Rehovot* 9451333
Eilat* 6332444	Rishon* 9642333
Haifa* 8512233	Safed 6920333
Jerusalem* 6523133	Tel Aviv* 5460111
Karmiel* 9985444	Tiberias* 6792444

* Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) service in the area, around the clock.

Help line for English-speakers – Confidential hot-line counseling and referrals for all ages, all problems. MiLev Center for Crisis Counseling. (02) 654-1111, 1-800-654-111.
Medical help for tourists (in English) 177-022-9110.
The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital 04-852-9205, 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.
Eran – Emotional First Aid – 1201, also Jerusalem 02-561-0303 (Arabic: 563-0301); Tel Aviv 03-546-1111 (children/youth 546-0739); Rishon Lezion 03-956-6661/2; Haifa 04-867-2222 (Arabic: 867-2226); Beersheba 07-649-4333; Netanya 09-862-5110; Karmiel 04-988-8770 (Arabic: 958-3444); Kfar Sava 09-767-4555; Hadera 06-634-6789; Nazareth (Arabic: 06-645-4222).
Crisis Center for Religious Women 02-655-5744/5. 24-hour service, confidentiality guaranteed.
Wizo hotlines for battered women 02-651-4111, 03-546-1133, 07-637-6310, 08-855-0506.
Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 523-4819, 544-9191 (men), Jerusalem 625-5558, Haifa 853-0533, Eilat 633-1977.
Hadassah Medical Organization – Israel Cancer Association support service, 02-624-7676.
Flight arrivals – for information in English 03-972-3344.
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TEL AVIV
Museums
TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART. Ninety Years of Israeli Art – selection from the Joseph Hackmey-Israel Phoenix Collection. Avigdor Arikha – drawings. Hedva Ser – Aubusson Tapestries. Jozef Israëls, paintings; Isaac Israëls: Chronicler of Life. "A Point of View" – children's exhibition. Collections. **HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART.** On the Edge – New Art from Private Collections in France. Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue. 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri., Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. **Meyerhoff Art Education Center**, Tel. (03) 691-9155/8.

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Buying the total market

By JAMES K. GLASSMAN

The case for owning mutual funds managed by actual human beings is getting weaker all the time.

The year just past was the fifth in a row – and the eighth in the last 11 – in which the Standard & Poor's' 500-stock index, a "passive," or unmanaged, portfolio of stocks that represents a hig chunk of the market, beat the majority of stock funds.

The Vanguard 500 Index Portfolio, a fund that mimics the S&P, returned 28.7 percent in 1998 – almost twice as much as the average fund, at 14.5%. According to Morningstar, the Vanguard fund beat 88% of all US equity funds in 1998, at least 78% of them in each of the past five years and at least 53% of them in each of the past seven.

No wonder Vanguard 500 has become the largest mutual fund in America. But should you rush out right now and buy it? Maybe not. While there is a strong case for investors simply to own the market, Vanguard 500 – and other funds that track the popular S&P index – is not the market.

It is, instead, "far more aggressive – and less diversified – than you might think," said a recent issue of the newsletter *Dow Theory Forecasts*.

The particular composition of the S&P – with its heavy emphasis on the largest companies – has worked well over the past few years. But will it work in the future? We can't possibly tell, but true passive investors, who recognize their limits as prognosticators and, instead, want to ride the wave of the market, should consider alternatives. It's reasonable to assume that stocks will soon "revert to the mean," or go back to their normal historical patterns. If that happens, the prices of large-caps, which have been surging, will moderate, while mid- and small-caps, which have languished and are insignificant in the S&P, will rise to catch up.

But, mean-reversion or not, owniog a true market fund makes sense.

Vanguard has one, called Total Stock Market Index, and when I recently asked John Bogle, the founder of the firm, which he recommends – 500 or Total – he picked Total without hesitation.

The fund is based on the Wilshire 5000 Index, an attempt to capture the performance of every single stock on the New York, American and Nasdaq exchanges. The title has become a misnomer as the exchanges have grown, and today the Wilshire tracks 7,200 stocks, compared with the S&P's 500.

Just two weeks ago, Wilshire Associates launched its own total-market fund, called the Wilshire 5000 Index Fund. The Santa Monica, Calif., firm, which was started by an actual rocket scientist named Dennis Tito, has been running individual accounts since 1983 using the index, and has just decided to take the idea public, accepting minimum initial investments of $1,000.

Like the S&P 500, the Wilshire is capitalization-weighted, meaniog that the companies that investors value most have the most effect on the index. The difference is that, with a few exceptions, the S&P owns only the largest stocks. Without the dilution provided by smaller companies, the large-caps have a huge influence on the S&P index.

For example, more than one-third of the assets of the S&P are in just 25 companies, and 55% are in the top 50 stocks. A better name for the index might be the S&P 50.

Personal Finance

The Wilshire is simply more diversified. The top 10 companies are the same for each index, but they represent 20% of the value of the S&P and only 15% of the value of the Wilshire.

Also, the S&P is heavily tilted toward the New York Stock Exchange.

Only 40 of the 500 companies are traded on the Nasdaq and only two on the American. The index has just one biotech firm (Amgen, Inc.) and just 13 companies that it lumps in a category called "computers," which includes both hardware and software and even America Online, Inc. Meanwhile, the S&P is top-heavy with retailers (37) and electric utility companies (27).

But the technology stocks in the S&P are huge: Microsoft Corp., Cisco Systems, Inc., etc. They represent 15% of the index's assets – up from just 5% five years ago.

The main differences between the two indexes are that the Wilshire is loaded with mid-cap and small-cap stocks and that its average company has a market value half that of the average S&P firm. The Wilshire, then, is partly a play on smaller stocks making a comeback.

But it is also really the "market" – not just a slice of it.

WHY buy the market? By "investing in an index fund," wrote chairman Warren Buffett in the 1993 Berkshire Hathaway, Inc., annual report, "the know-nothing investor can actually out-perform most investment professionals. Paradoxically, when 'dumb' money acknowledges its limitations, it ceases to be dumb." In other words, if you lack the time or the inclination to build your own portfolio of stocks, you can buy managed mutual funds – only a small proportioo of which have outperformed the market lately – or you can buy the market itself, through Vanguard Total or Wilshire 5000 Index Fund.

Another hig advantage of these funds is that they charge low fees. Vanguard's expense ratio is only 0.20%, compared with an average of 1.4% for the typical growth-stock fund, plus an additional $10 for accounts under $10,000. Wilshire is charging 0.55% – not much different. It also allows smaller initial investments than Vanguard's $3,000.

How has Vanguard Total – the only Wilshire-based fund with a history – performed? For the five years that ended Feb. 9, it returned an annual average of 20.9%, compared with 23.5% for the 500 Index fund. For the past year, the return has been 16.0%, compared with 21.1% for the 500 fund.

Still, Morningstar has placed Total in the second quartile – meaning that it beats at least half of all funds – in each of the six years of its existence. And Jennifer Openshaw, director of investment services for Wilshire, points out that the index has beaten two-thirds of all US-equity funds since 1984, when compared on the basis of three-year average returns.

It's ironic, but neither the Vanguard nor the Wilshire fund owns every stock in the index. There are just too many, and the smallest ones are so tiny they have little effect. Vanguard, at last count, owned 3,118 stocks, or about 30 times as many as the average stock fund. Wilshire, Openshaw said, will eventually own about 2,000 – the 1,000 largest plus another 1,000 that will attempt to reflect the characteristics of the smaller stocks.

Wilshire has long experience running such portfolios for hig clients. The firm also launched four sector funds in 1992, also passively managed according to statistical criteria, differentiated hy size and style: Large Company Growth, Large Value, Small Growth and Small Value.

The Large Growth fund has returned 30.5% over the past 12 months, compared with 21.4% for the S&P 500. But the Small Value fund has chalked up a loss of 14.4% over this period.

With a Wilshire 5000 fund, you get all the stocks in these funds, plus hundreds more.

Of course, if you believe that a fundamental shift toward large-cap growth has occurred in the market, then you probably won't want to own a hroad index fund. Just find an actively managed fund that specializes in such stocks – or buy Wilshire's sector offering.

But, as much as I like to try to find great managers who can beat the market, the task seems to be getting tougher, and sensible investors may want a fund like Vanguard Total or Wilshire 5000 at the core of their portfolios.

Steve Chung, a Morningstar analyst, puts it well. He writes that an investor has to ask two questions before buying a broad index fund: "Is it possible for active managers to consistently add more value with their investment decisions than the costs they are charging to do so?"

And, even more important: "If some active managers can add value above costs, can investors confidently identify those who are skilled enough to do so?" If you have douhts, you now have a couple of excellent alternatives.

The Business Scene

By Greer Fay Cashman

A group of Jordanians with management backgrounds (right) have just completed a four-month training course at Shenkar College, which has helped prepare them to take up senior management positions at the Bagir factory in Jordan. Bagir is one of several Israeli companies with production facilities in Jordan. Courses conducted in English and Arabic were sponsored by Bagir. The Jordanians also received hands-on specialization in manufacturing floor procedures through on-site training at the local Bagir plant. Bagir, in conjunction with the Jordanian company Century Investments, has invested $5 million in building a new state-of-the-art factory in Jordan. Shenkar President Professor **Amotz Weinberg** says that the project with Bagir represents the beginning of an ongoing commitment by the textiles school to promote cooperative ties between Israel and its neighbors.

Kashrut and Halal (Islamic dietary law) considerations are making it easier for both Israelis and Jordanians to eat top-quality meat, says **Betty Shiloni**, manager of the Australian Trade Commission. Because Australia now stun-kills animals whose flesh is destined for the table, Australian frozen meat is no longer imported by Israel and Jordan. Instead they bring in live cattle. The local livestock imports are sent to Beersheba for slaughter. Last year Israel brought in $7 million worth of Australian cattle, says Shiloni, and the figure is expected to double this year. The Ministry of Agriculture is giving Australian cattle imports the thumbs up signal because it knows that Australian cattle is free of disease.

Shai Hausman (Shlomo Woltkowicz)

Yitzhak Eyal has been appointed general manager of Bank Leumi France. He will replace **Leon Melubenczik**, who has retired after a 44-year career with the bank, during which time he held senior management positions in Israel and abroad.

Naor Yerishalmi, 37, former director of public affairs at the Israeli embassy in Washington and spokesman for Tel Aviv University, has been named chairman of the B'nai B'rith World Center in Jerusalem. Yerushalmi, who succeeds veteran civic leader **Shalom P. Doron**, was appointed by recently elected B'nai B'rith International President **Richard Heideman**.

Shai Hausman of Carta Publishing House was unanimously elected chairman of the Book Publishers Association of Israel. Elected to serve with him during his two year term were **Ori Shatz**, as chairman of the finance committee; **Racheli Eidelman**, as head of the copyright committee; and **Oded Modan**, as head of the marketing and distribution committee.

Canadian philanthropist **Harry Bloomfield**, whose family has long been associated with the Amal schools and numerous other educational, cultural and sporting projects in Israel, arrived here last week to inspect the Amal facilities.

Alon Sagi, 28, who six years ago started his working career as a waiter for Apropo, has been made the chain's acting projects manager. Three years after joining the chain, he won the franchise to operate the company's branch at the Savyonim Mall in Yahud. In his new capacity, Sagi will be directly responsible for all those branches of the chain which are fully owned hy the company, including those which are still in the pipeline. He will also be responsible for the company's support system for all its outlets, including those under franchise.

IMF's Camdessus optimistic on Russia aid

MOSCOW — The International Monetary Fund will consider new help for Russia when the government presents a realistic anti-crisis program, IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus was quoted as saying on Tuesday.

"I would like such support to be giveo to Russia as soon as possible," he told the *Novye Izvestiya* newspaper.

First Deputy Prime Minister Yuri Maslyukov said an IMF tax and budget expert would visit Moscow this week and he was also confident on concluding deals with the IMF's sister body, the World Bank, io 10 days.

The IMF halted a multibillion-dollar credit program for Russia after last year's financial crisis torpedoed the country's economic policies underpinning the loans.

Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov's government, which came to power in the aftermath of the crisis, is seeking fresh IMF credits which would help it repay loans to the Fund itself and restructure debts to other creditors.

Camdessus, who visited Moscow in December, gave oo hiot that an agreement was imminent despite months of negotiations between IMF experts, central bank and government officials.

"As soon as Russia preseots a realistic coosidered program for leading the country out of economic crisis and carries out tough fiscal policies on the ioternal market, I will be the first to propose that my colleagues study the question of allocating Russia new economic support packages," he said.

Maslyukov, heading talks with the Fund and other international bodies, was quoted hy news agencies as saying the IMF tax and budget specialist would arrive in the next few days and that be would be Camdessus's personal representative.

He said he expected agreement with the World Bank in the oext 10 days on four items: a loan for the coal sector, two for the social sector and a credit worth $400 million to build a major road in Siberia.

Camdessus said in the interview that any help for Russia would be a signal to the international community the country was on the right economic path, but he highlighted a number of problems that had to be addressed, notably corruptioo and capital flight.

"Even in these extreme conditions, some Russians are spending thousands of dollars on French Riviera resorts as if everything in their country was normal," he said.

(Reuters)

Mutual Funds

FLEXIBLE

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Abir	240.46	239.77	-1.03	-1.68	12.3
Adar Flexible	107.66	106.41	-0.42	-2.03	25.8
Afikim Flexible	210.14	207.60	-2.84	-1.55	13.9
Ahrayut Flexible	469.80	461.64	+0.41	-0.87	2.0
Alomot Flexible	106.21	106.41	-0.06	-0.99	11.8
Analyst Deversified	807.43	789.03	-2.27	-3.00	65.2
Apex Flexible	190.69	190.51	+0.08	-0.38	53.6
Andmedes	100.71	99.61	+0.55	-0.01	1.1
Avuka	1936.60	1931.25	+0.45	-1.88	4.9
Bloch Rotstein Flexible	223.06	218.64	+0.27	-2.74	27.5
Clal Flexible	1135.22	1122.66	-0.91	-2.11	4.3
Dikla Mamon	260.04	258.15	-0.37	+0.28	20.2
Dikla Meirav	183.23	182.65	-0.54	-0.21	6.3
Dikla Moked	3361.37	3337.25	-0.45	-1.09	63.5
Dovrat Shrem Flexible	163.10	159.65	-0.52	-2.28	22.1
Emda Flexible Fund	3880.51	3845.54	-0.96	+0.67	26.4
Epsilon Flexible	160.37	160.00	-0.09	-0.25	8.5
Evergreen Flexible	118.15	115.21	-2.41	-4.23	7.5
Excellence Flexible	3217.29	3177.20	-0.78	-2.78	9.5
Gal'or Flexible	104.15	103.84	-0.53	+2.50	1.8
Igud Bonds	108.87	108.40	-0.10	-1.78	2.3
Igud Flexible	183.77	182.74	-0.01	+0.52	16.0
Igud Shildt	148.24	148.24	-0.06	+0.39	214.0
Ilanot 30 Plus	153.58	150.90	-1.04	-1.49	2.7
Ilanot 80	247.98	243.69	-1.00	-2.73	18.5
Ilanot Shikim Adif	2579.28	2579.28	+0.34	+0.94	15.6
Ilanot Tidhar	3270.45	3254.18	-0.81	-2.38	64.2
Kivun Flexible	110.03	109.18	-2.00	-7.78	4.6
Lahak Flexible	745.70	732.56	-0.35	-2.24	60.5
Lamashkia	—	—	—	—	5.8
Maofim Bonds	108.35	107.28	+0.06	-0.28	7.3
Maofim Flexible	126.40	124.24	-1.79	-0.72	6.5
Maritime Flexible Fund	101.82	99.97	+0.32	-0.25	10.0
Meitav Flexible	175.28	173.92	-0.61	-2.76	3.4
Models Flexible	110.67	108.60	+0.27	-1.47	18.6
Models Teuza	100.37	99.18	+0.30	-1.67	4.8
Moritz Money Market	149.67	149.66	+0.54	+1.57	12.6
Nesua Zanex Flexible	2504.87	2493.36	+0.35	-0.88	9.1
Netz	82.28	82.09	-8.69	-23.45	0.2
Noga	946.77	934.68	+0.18	-0.89	45.3
Omer Pekan	187.58	184.33	-0.80	-2.55	15.6
Otzar Flexible	104.09	102.28	-1.33	-4.28	3.6
Pekan Saar Flexible Fund	216.01	215.39	-0.28	-0.27	189.8
Pia Heyovel	232.34	231.10	-0.68	-1.91	49.5
Pia Kela	955.87	951.12	-0.33	-1.82	276.3
Psagot Gamish	557.97	548.07	-2.06	-4.00	118.9
Psagot Megama	323.11	321.33	-2.44	-4.33	82.1
Ramco Flexible	187.11	185.09	+0.15	-2.38	9.1
Sigma Flexible	97.29	96.32	-0.24	-2.23	6.8
Sivan	261.93	259.06	-0.27	-1.64	45.2
Telescope	106.50	105.23	+0.62	-2.01	0.9
[illegible] Flexible	—	—	—	—	0.2
Yesodot	3201.93	3145.34	-1.29	+0.22	29.7
Zeller Flexible	78.82	77.66	-1.85	-1.70	3.0
Zion Flexible	12648.61	12608.00	+0.13	-1.88	7.7

SHARES

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Adif Pekan	117.82	115.74	-1.78	-0.62	25.9
Afikim Shares	282.76	279.29	-1.65	-2.85	12.4
Ahrayut Oil & Shares	132.92	130.27	-0.72	-8.85	1.3
Ahrayut Real Estate	213.01	208.78	+0.09	-1.79	8.2
Ahrayut Shares	307.06	301.81	+0.80	-0.86	2.2
Alomot Growth	92.57	90.99	-0.61	-3.08	0.9
Analyst Aggressive	184.25	180.46	-1.91	-1.49	43.6
Analyst Equity	1316.69	1286.55	-0.83	-1.90	145.5
Analyst Industries	407.01	397.76	-0.71	-1.82	59.3
Apex Shares	123.99	123.70	+0.16	-0.39	14.1
Atlas Pekan	—	—	—	—	26.7
Baron	222.57	218.56	-1.39	-2.28	9.8
Bloch Rotstein Shares	117.14	114.88	+0.21	-2.78	13.7
Capital Shares	105.33	103.96	-0.93	-1.01	4.8
Chemical Pekan	129.69	127.41	+0.18	-1.58	5.6
Clal Maof	239.44	238.74	-0.55	-2.00	10.5
Clal Shares S Conv.	155.65	153.91	-0.70	-1.49	2.1
Dikla Megged	94.48	93.75	-1.87	-2.22	9.2
Dikla Madad Maof	205.92	204.82	-0.41	-1.90	65.1
Dikla Meratz	526.91	522.76	-0.35	-1.11	56.0
Dikla Mitan	90.52	89.96	-4.37	-5.14	12.2
Dikla Magen Finance	112.72	111.81	-1.99	-6.54	22.2
Dikla Mikud 30	89.58	89.01	-0.90	-0.76	26.9
Dikla Mivneh	338.95	337.33	-2.89	-4.06	20.9
Dikla Mondial	—	—	—	—	13.9
Dikla Mor	1559.31	1548.90	-1.05	-1.41	76.2
Dovrat Shrem 100	101.76	99.70	-0.87	-3.98	9.2
Dovrat Shrem Yeter	112.52	110.22	-1.68	-1.92	6.9
Emda Export	87.46	86.59	-0.82	+0.46	9.5
Emda High Tech	—	—	—	—	8.0
Emda Maof	215.43	213.84	-0.04	-1.45	29.9
Emda Paz	178.45	176.73	-1.49	-1.53	11.0
Emda Shalhevet	163.79	162.57	-1.22	-0.12	14.6
Emda T-A 100	2047.05	2026.27	-0.98	-1.10	46.4

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Emda Yeter	1483.79	1468.52	-2.39	-2.73	18.9
Epsilon 36	104.06	103.72	-0.82	-0.79	23.2
Epsilon Shares	180.75	180.16	-0.16	-1.96	11.9
Epsilon Technologies	—	—	—	—	14.0
Eraz Pekan	364.04	362.69	-0.55	-2.33	155.5
Esh	594.26	583.03	+0.72	-0.26	1.9
Evergreen High Tech	—	—	—	—	11.5
Evergreen Shares	155.14	153.66	-2.63	-4.95	13.8
Excellence Agresive	268.36	265.52	-2.40	-4.52	8.3
Excellence Shares	630.65	627.59	-1.04	-4.19	7.4
Eyal Shares	125.33	125.33	-0.60	-2.34	5.3
Gal	117.56	116.05	-0.34	-2.25	13.5
Hon Pekan	99.19	97.44	-1.30	-4.30	41.4
Igud Maof	93.82	93.45	-0.11	-1.63	5.3
Igud Shares	151.25	150.38	-0.65	-2.49	7.8
Igud Yeter	99.97	99.48	-1.25	-2.21	3.4
Ilanot Caramim	149.38	148.60	-1.04	-2.05	41.0
Ilanot Communication	108.62	108.07	-0.13	-1.85	46.0
Ilanot Dekel	3101.05	3088.22	-0.41	-1.70	79.7
Ilanot Finance	85.41	84.97	-0.77	-5.13	9.1
Ilanot Globe	—	—	—	—	10.9
Ilanot Maof	203.75	202.83	-0.04	-1.68	59.3
Ilanot Nadlan	1422.90	1415.62	-1.21	-2.24	25.5
Ilanot Nimrezet	77.59	77.18	-0.27	-1.98	4.3
Ilanot Shares	4838.83	4819.02	+0.12	-0.45	7.6
Ilanot Shchakim	51.24	51.00	-0.04	-0.37	11.2
Ilanot Sheaak	892.86	888.15	-1.09	-3.53	81.3
Ilanot T-A 100	2780.78	2786.64	-0.29	-1.90	73.0
Israel America	—	—	—	—	0.8
Jerusalem Maof	1518.48	1518.01	-0.19	-2.05	4.2
Kohav Pekan	173.98	170.85	-1.35	-2.77	66.7
Koor Money Market	138.48	138.48	+0.73	+1.47	112.5
Koor Shares	94.06	92.90	-1.02	-2.14	6.3
Lahak Agresivit Plus	78.14	74.85	-0.89	-2.75	14.5
Lahak Ankor	828.81	810.09	-0.07	-1.88	30.1
Lahak Dividends	333.83	332.89	-0.82	-1.86	54.4
Lahak Menayot 30	96.94	96.56	-0.01	-1.19	30.2
Lahak Menayot Yeter	93.51	92.78	-2.89	-3.38	14.4
Lahak Nadlan	128.29	126.08	-1.22	-2.76	26.0
Lahak TA-Wall Street	—	—	—	—	18.4
Lahak Tor 100	431.21	423.61	-0.59	-1.76	64.7
Lahak Yetsu	78.15	77.90	-0.31	-0.43	33.8
Lahak Zamir	807.97	793.48	+0.52	-1.91	42.8
Maale Maof Pekan	186.30	183.03	-0.62	-1.99	59.0
Magic	269.09	264.35	-3.74	-2.92	7.6
Martingale Dynamit	—	—	—	—	14.0
Meitav High Tech	—	—	—	—	2.4
Meitav Options	44.70	44.01	-1.78	-7.09	8.8
Meitav Shares	225.14	223.29	-0.43	-1.20	6.4
Meitav Teuza	116.15	115.21	-1.89	-1.97	4.7
Mercazit Caram Maniv	52.57	52.43	-1.11	-1.60	0.8
Mercazit Maof	188.99	188.52	-0.25	-2.10	2.0
Mercazit TA 100	244.08	243.37	-0.11	-2.02	2.5
Necha Continental	58.72	57.66	-2.50	-2.86	10.4
Nesua Zanex Shares	452.08	449.91	+0.39	-0.78	4.9
NIII T-A 100	1049.18	1035.54	-0.04	-1.08	15.8
Omega	127.03	124.79	-0.27	+1.84	1.8
Otzar Foreign Int. Par.	150.38	147.77	-0.65	-2.89	2.1
Otzar Shares	116.44	114.43	-0.86	-3.53	5.8
Otzar Yeter	86.85	85.35	-0.96	-2.48	3.5
Pekan Communication	100.57	100.44	—	—	—
Pekan T-A 100	164.63	161.63	-0.68	-1.83	57.9
Pia 2000	93.24	91.58	-2.28	-4.17	19.1
Pia Bdolach T-A 100	1026.65	1006.59	-0.07	-1.32	73.0
Pia Manof	133.66	131.28	-1.94	-0.01	25.1
Pia Maof	109.42	134.92	+0.03	-1.23	78.6
Pia Michlol	835.18	820.57	-0.42	-2.05	128.4
Pia Odem	1309.44	1280.40	-0.30	-1.59	159.4
Pia Olamit	—	—	—	—	38.2
Pia Yahalom	1109.30	1103.23	-1.53	-5.21	62.4
Pia Zinok	66.71	65.54	-1.16	+1.44	26.0
Pritza	—	—	—	—	0.8
Psagot 20	52.99	51.52	-0.87	-3.72	96.8
Psagot Al	71.60	70.34	-0.26	-5.07	17.8
Psagot Focus	107.17	106.59	-0.44	-3.49	72.9
Psagot High Tech	—	—	—	—	37.1
Psagot Mabat Lashalom	133.39	131.03	-0.94	-2.49	38.3
Psagot Menayot	811.86	797.44	-1.57	-5.55	125.9
Psagot T-A 100	363.89	361.68	-1.31	-4.78	201.6
Psagot Yeter	180.41	177.21	-2.38	-3.60	36.7
Raam 80	120.81	118.76	-0.84	-0.98	4.3
Ramco Shares	128.93	127.44	+2.21	+20.68	1.7
Sigma Mivharet	155.02	152.92	-1.09	-4.13	3.0
Simodan Shares & Conv.	68.98	67.82	-0.47	-3.02	0.5
Singer Bamea Financial	108.30	104.43	-0.42	-8.11	0.5
Singer Bamea Shmura	134.93	134.88	-0.65	-4.63	1.7
Tamir Fishman Tamsha	—	—	—	—	11.2
Tsuot Sula	150.87	149.54	-0.95	-1.96	26.4
Yasar	22.34	22.27	-8.94	-25.99	0.1
Zik	321.83	320.92	-0.51	-2.49	2.5
Zion Shares	134.19	133.43	-0.58	-1.13	2.2
Zion Yeter	76.59	75.38	-1.80	-1.29	3.0

STATE BONDS

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Ahrayut State Bonds	476.00	470.66	+0.24	-0.29	6.3

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Almog Pekan	280.32	275.36	+0.54	-0.06	85.5
Alomot Bonds	100.57	100.56	+0.33	—	11.4
Analyst Government Bonds	432.42	425.88	-0.30	-1.06	29.9
Clal Dotan	1308.84	1303.02	-0.44	-1.12	4.1
Clal State Bonds	486.84	484.04	-0.34	-1.17	5.9
Dikla Marom	6690.12	6650.82	-0.06	+0.59	30.5
Dikla Mivtah	1819.66	1805.36	-0.31	-1.21	42.8
Ducas	272.68	271.91	+0.40	+0.30	18.7
Emda Goverment Bond	1160.74	1152.10	+0.07	-0.51	64.7
Emda Lashem	1507.50	1482.58	+0.03	-0.45	27.4
Emda Sela	1464.51	1453.94	+0.13	+0.26	46.7
Epsilon Gov't Bonds	222.43	222.13	+0.43	+0.61	29.4
Geva	442.51	437.12	+0.12	-0.06	88.9
Hilla Pekan	576.80	576.80	-0.64	-1.03	237.5
Ilanot Egoz	1255.00	1246.94	-0.23	-0.91	82.1
Ilanot Tapuah	708.86	706.06	+0.03	-0.56	21.4
Ilanot Tapuz	1149.64	1142.11	-0.16	-0.45	90.1
Lahak Gov't Bonds	758.51	758.51	+0.23	+0.78	162.8
Lahak Mahalakot	150.11	147.55	+0.65	+0.27	53.5
Lahak Zmudim Arukim	570.15	568.52	+0.78	-0.30	46.7
Maritime Government Bond	168.13	165.84	-0.10	-0.91	14.3
Meitav Gov't Bonds	133.05	132.34	+0.15	-0.47	20.8
Mekorit Pekan	121.68	121.28	+0.15	-0.37	19.4
Mercazit Gov't Bonds	165.36	164.21	+0.18	+0.10	4.7
Nesua Zanex Gov't Bonds	1469.84	1466.78	+0.27	+0.13	42.3
Otzar Gov't Bonds	164.35	161.44	+0.27	-0.57	14.6
Pia Conv' Bonds 50	260.68	258.61	-0.39	-0.56	58.3
Pia Tarshish	138.04	135.62	+0.28	-0.54	233.2
Pia Zamid	5019.82	4631.78	+0.32	-0.74	148.7
Psagot Agach	622.87	612.21	+0.30	+0.02	43.9
Psagot Maala	468.32	454.93	+0.43	-0.15	55.6
Psagot Madad	600.39	589.89	+0.24	-0.36	89.0
Shavit Pekan	782.04	768.21	-0.09	-0.90	168.8
Yaara Pekan	622.68	611.88	+0.77	-0.15	84.3
Yevul Pekan	805.43	803.08	+0.54	-0.28	181.3
Ziv	876.35	867.75	-0.15	-0.89	44.8
Zohar	548.53	541.88	+0.03	-0.85	37.9

COMPANY BONDS

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Afikim Bonds	347.34	343.22	-2.83	-1.11	38.0
Ahrayut Bonds	206.89	205.50	+0.11	-0.02	3.8
Amirim	141.87	140.80	+0.08	-0.28	23.6
Analyst Corporate Bonds	302.62	297.27	-0.60	-1.35	67.8
Analyst Money Market	169.09	168.64	+0.47	+0.90	10.0
Apex Tsua	157.89	157.64	-0.12	+0.04	121.2
Bloch Rotstein Bonds	173.01	170.86	+0.86	+0.26	13.3
Bond	163.43	162.24	-0.73	-0.78	7.5
Capital Bonds	160.72	159.56	+0.31	-0.13	8.8
Clal Company Debentures	219.87	216.60	-0.12	-0.89	2.4
Clal Gen' Bond Rating	109.73	109.09	-0.29	-0.45	10.4
Clal Zmira	188.71	188.71	+0.48	+1.11	26.3
Dikla Maayan	953.28	956.47	-0.03	-0.03	49.4
Dikla Magen Plus	109.01	109.01	+0.61	+1.09	122.7
Dikla Maskoret Plus	156.95	156.95	+0.64	+1.20	370.1
Dikla Meimad	511.52	507.64	-0.63	-1.28	49.4
Dikla Mirvah	625.72	620.80	-0.87	-1.08	17.5
Dikla Mivhar	626.89	622.82	+0.12	+0.23	43.0
Dikla Nirvan	2099.34	2084.04	-0.34	-0.44	81.5
Dovrat Shrem Bonds	176.40	173.77	-0.20	-0.50	48.9
Emda Dynamit Magen	115.81	115.81	+0.51	+1.45	40.3
Emda Halamish	149.65	148.17	+0.22	+0.27	14.7
Emda Hamara	1180.14	1148.45	-0.07	+0.76	42.2
Emda Shikit	108.60	108.60	+0.86	+1.26	444.1
Epsilon Corp. Bonds	129.46	129.12	-0.05	-0.47	21.9
Epsilon Money Market	159.74	159.74	+0.61	+1.33	134.5
Evergreen Shkoola	164.60	163.71	-0.55	-1.36	31.7
Excellence Bonds	2310.21	2281.53	-0.13	-0.57	20.9
Eyal Bonds	154.76	154.76	+0.29	+0.32	5.5
Eyal Shotaf	150.32	150.32	+0.63	+1.33	14.3
Guy	752.69	743.78	+0.01	-0.76	103.9
Hatz Pekan	548.55	548.55	+0.88	+1.22	935.1
LBJ Shkalim	160.32	160.32	+0.55	+1.03	134.6
Igud Magen Shildt	102.37	102.37	+0.04	+0.01	4.1
Ilanot Agas	478.41	475.23	-0.09	-0.27	41.4
Ilanot Alon	2093.82	2080.26	-0.12	-0.49	43.6
Ilanot Armon	141.25	140.45	+0.19	+0.09	21.3
Ilanot Conv'bonds	3440.32	3416.91	+0.53	+0.40	7.6
Ilanot Eshel	836.69	834.19	-0.08	-0.49	87.3
Ilanot Etrog	1161.10	1153.40	+0.27	-0.08	56.7
Ilanot Muvhahot	111.93	111.93	+0.35	+0.90	25.7
Ilanot Oren	4280.25	4252.07	-0.02	-0.55	113.0
Ilanot Orion	188.00	187.73	-0.24	-0.78	27.7
Ilanot Rimon	601.90	601.90	+0.55	+1.18	—
Ilanot Shahar	254.50	252.77	-0.02	-0.05	32.8
Ilanot Shaked	236.29	234.85	+0.07	-0.33	39.4
Ilanot Shkoola	179.02	177.82	+0.67	+0.30	47.4
Jerusalem Shildt	101.11	101.11	+0.50	+0.87	40.6
Koor Amnar Bonds	226.55	226.07	-0.49	-1.03	28.4
Koor Difender	103.72	103.72	+0.42	+1.32	23.0
Lahak Conv. Bonds	251.76	251.76	-0.27	-0.53	68.4
Lahak Magen 95%	164.35	164.35	+0.42	+1.21	86.3
Lahak Money Market	100.90	100.90	+0.53	—	170.4
Lahak Shkalim	104.18	104.18	+1.04	+1.18	239.1
Lahak Yasoor	201.02	201.02	+0.87	+1.29	114.0
Malkort Pekan	350.11	349.18	+0.87	+0.54	28.0

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Maritime Conv' Bonds	107.40	105.54	-0.87	+1.74	1.8
Meitav Corp. Conv. Bonds	162.77	161.81	-0.14	-1.32	14.9
Meitav Money Market	127.94	127.94	+0.64	+1.68	13.0
Mercazit Conv. Bonds	499.79	498.31	-0.29	-0.39	3.1
Mercazit Shildt Gambo	103.56	103.56	+0.58	+1.37	20.9
Models Shmura	116.79	115.67	+0.37	-0.25	14.6
Nesua Zanex Corp' Bonds	181.63	190.83	+0.59	+0.41	10.2
Otzar Shkalim	142.83	142.83	+0.58	+1.13	61.2
Pekan Corporate Bonds	473.88	465.60	-0.01	+0.48	31.4
Pia Halfin	573.22	573.22	+0.75	+1.15	466.0
Pia Mogenot	109.88	109.88	+0.55	+1.15	60.0
Pia Money Market	101.57	101.57	+0.50	+1.54	189.4
Pia Ophir	638.48	635.13	-0.25	-0.88	139.9
Pia Or	1225.19	1203.68	-0.04	-0.87	106.7
Pia Segula	285.40	280.51	-0.10	-0.83	49.4
Pia Shamir	1374.42	1350.19	+0.27	-0.91	113.5
Pia Shkalim Adif	112.40	112.38	+0.20	+0.24	889.0
Pia Tnufa	405.11	398.01	+0.22	-0.46	24.2
Pia Vozma	241.28	237.02	+0.19	-1.29	24.6
Pti	306.18	303.27	-0.27	-0.14	3.6
Psagot Hagana Plus	112.63	112.63	+0.46	+1.16	84.4
Psagot Kol Rega	245.98	245.98	+0.82	+1.14	1062
Psagot Tashlumim	100.49	98.71	-0.57	-0.93	31.0
Psagot Yetsira	616.45	613.31	-0.12	-1.04	177.5
Ramco Bonds	105.22	104.59	+0.47	+0.63	12.2
Simodan Bonds	102.80	101.07	+1.08	-0.78	1.0
Simodan Interest	155.65	155.65	+0.52	+1.30	20.0
Tsuot Hen	188.27	187.25	-0.30	+0.03	34.8
Zeller Conv. Bonds	106.15	105.56	-1.52	+1.39	0.5
Zion Bonds	2074.90	2063.68	-0.13	-0.23	4.4
Zion Gov't Bonds	114.59	114.38	-0.12	-0.34	9.4

FOREIGN CURRENCY

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Afikim Foreign	—	—	—	—	29.7
Alomot Foreign Currency	115.08	114.33	-0.60	-1.24	12.7
Analyst Europe	—	—	—	—	24.4
Capital Foreign	—	—	—	—	1.8
Dikla Meged	1129.98	1121.55	-1.50	-2.51	54.9
Dollar	—	—	—	—	6.7
Emda Matach	377.75	375.85	-1.25	-1.91	52.0
Emda Tevel	—	—	—	—	48.6
Igud Foreign Currency	110.60	110.24	-1.58	-3.75	10.4
Ilanot Dolev	1021.80	1014.99	-0.69	-1.92	104.5
Ilanot Hul	—	—	—	—	62.7
Ilanot Ilan $	—	—	—	—	46.5
Ilanot Matach	257.57	257.57	-0.92	-1.88	89.8
Koor Currency Sal	—	—	—	—	10.9
Lahak Cosmos $	—	—	—	—	10.5
Lahak Kahal	—	—	—	—	60.8
Lahak Matach	681.08	681.08	-1.21	-2.02	340.7
Meitav Foreign Currency	338.15	337.23	-0.88	-2.25	18.4
Moriah Pekan $	—	—	—	—	14.9
Nesua Zanex Foreign Curr	98.65	98.65	-0.58	-1.31	5.5
Otzar Foreign Currency	157.44	157.44	-0.86	-1.96	19.7
Pekan Inbal Matach	202.21	202.21	-1.02	-1.92	460.2
Pia Chul	—	—	—	—	117.0
Pia Inbar	125.56	125.21	-1.28	-2.40	317.6
Pia Prime $	—	—	—	—	34.1
Pia Target $	—	—	—	—	125.4
Psagot Chul	—	—	—	—	66.2
Psagot Globe $	—	—	—	—	61.6
Psagot Israel Horizon	—	—	—	—	48.9
Psagot Matah	612.29	601.44	-1.44	-2.55	193.6
Reshef Pekan	—	—	—	—	50.4
Rosen Continental	—	—	—	—	19.4
Tsabar Pekan	385.63	378.78	-1.09	-2.37	29.6

MIXED

Fund's name	unit cost	redemption price	monthly yield (%)	yield 1998 (%)	NIS assets (millions)
Eitan Pekan	371.05	364.49	+0.27	-0.34	83.0
Emda Kolelet	237.41	235.06	-0.86	-0.43	62.9
Goren Pekan	800.71	798.33	-0.16	-0.92	167.6
Ilanot Barak	2994.45	2943.71	-0.34	-0.95	35.2
Ilanot Brosh	3481.24	3422.53	-0.41	-1.67	63.6
Ilanot Mixed	2969.82	2918.60	-1.08	-1.85	5.7
Lahak Tzofit	813.73	798.61	-0.06	-0.14	142.4
Mad Oida	146.91	145.92	-0.27	-0.44	16.5
Pekan Shildt Meshulevet	91.16	91.16	+0.51	+0.11	130.5
Pia	8750.17	8598.30	-0.12	-1.01	158.0
Pia Gavish	7355.33	7226.68	-0.25	-2.12	218.3
Psagot Meshulevet	732.69	728.88	-1.11	-1.54	66.3

SOURCE: METTAV Ltd - Managers of Mutual Funds and Security Investments
DATE: 14-Feb-99

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هكذا من الأصل

FA may consider 'part-time Keegan'

By MITCH PHILLIPS

LONDON (Reuters) – Kevin Keegan was to have more talks with the Football Association (FA) last night about becoming England coach and seems likely to be allowed to fill the post on an initial part-time basis.

Keegan, chief operations officer and effectively manager of second division Fulham, has a contract until the end of next season and while the FA are unlikely to allow him to fulfil it, they seem happy to accommodate a part-time arrangement for the rest of this season.

"We are happy for him to work with both the FA and Fulham but we would want his position with his club resolved in the summer as we don't want a part-time manager in the long-term," acting FA chairman Geoff Thompson said in *The Mirror*.

Thompson, one of the favorites to replace Keith Wiseman as permanent FA chairman, seemed to back Keegan, saying: "He can bring enthusiasm and knowledge to the international scene."

He added: "He has done well at Newcastle and now Fulham and will bring a special passion to the England team." Keegan met Noel White, chairman of the FA's International committee and acting chief executive David Davies on Monday, talking for more than two hours.

Davies said yesterday there would be further meetings during the day but added that the FA were also pursuing other options.

"I am hoping that later this week we will have something positive to say for all England supporters. We are certainly moving speedily," he said.

Yesterday's newspapers speculated that Keegan had been offered a four-year contract, worth around £2 million, almost double the salary of previous coach Glenn Hoddle who was sacked earlier this month.

But the former Newcastle United coach, already earning £600,000 a year at Fulham, feels that he would be betraying the London club if he walked out now, as they battle for promotion to the first division.

He had previously pledged his loyalty to Fulham, saying he planned to see out his contract. But on Sunday, after losing 1-0 to Manchester United in the fifth round of the FA Cup, he said he would talk to the FA if they approached him.

Fulham fans have appealed to Keegan to stay at Craven Cottage and reject the England manager's job.

Former Leeds United manager and the FA's technical director Howard Wilkinson was given temporary control of England for last week's 2-0 defeat by world champions France.

Srinath rocks Pakistan as Asian Test cricket championship starts

CALCUTTA (Reuters) – A battling 70 by Moin Khan rescued Pakistan after Indian seamer Javagal Srinath ripped through their top order on the first day of the opening match in the inaugural three-nation Asian Test championship yesterday.

Reeling at 26 for six after only an hour of play, Pakistan recovered to make 185 in their first innings and India had replied with 26 for one by the close.

After Pakistan captain Wasim Akram won the toss and batted, Srinath, in tandem with Venkatesh Prasad, removed the top six batsmen in the space of just 41 balls.

Srinath, who finished with five for 46 from 19 overs, his best performance against Pakistan, started the collapse when he had Shahid Afridi (8) caught by wicketkeeper Nayan Mongia in the third over to make Pakistan 15 for one.

Prasad weighed in with the wickets of Saeed Anwar (0) and Wajahatullah Wasti (6) while Srinath dismissed Ijaz Ahmed (1), Yousuf Youhanna (2) and Azhar Mahmood (0).

But then Moin and Salim Malik staged a brave recovery, denying India any further success throughout afternoon as they added 84 runs for the seventh wicket.

Malik was the first to go as he edged a Srinath outswinger to Nayan Mongia in the first over after tea. He scored 32 off 140 balls and hit four boundaries.

Moin was next to follow, caught by Vengipurappu Laxman off the bowling of Sachin Tendulkar. His 70 included nine fours and a towering six.

Pakistani captain Wasim Akram scored an aggressive 38 with the help of one six and six fours before being caught by substitute fielder Hrishikesh Kanintakar while trying to loft off-spinner Harbhajan Singh.

Leg-spinner Anil Kumble, hero earlier this month with a world record equalling haul of 10 wickets in an innings against Pakistan, had his only success yesterday, trapping Shoaib Akhtar leg before to end the Pakistani innings.

Left-handed opener Sadagopan Ramesh gave India a brisk start with three boundaries in an unbeaten 17 but they received one setback when Vengipurappu Laxman (5) was clean bowled by Shoaib Akhtar shortly before the close.

Juniors take first step to Euro soccer finals

By OFER ROKEN-ABELS

Israel's under 16's cleared the first hurdle to the European soccer championships by beating Turkey 2-1 in Herzliya yesterday.

Israel need a favorable result from their encounter against the Republic of Ireland tomorrow if they are to reach the finals which will take place in the Czech Republic in May.

An early goal in each half saw Avraham Bachar's boys take a comfortable lead before scraping in a narrow victory which won them three valuable points.

Maccabi Tel Aviv forward Eli Biton gave Israel the lead inside the first minute when he was first to react to a long ball by Maccabi Netanya defender Shlomi Ukashi straight from the kickoff. Biton exploited a cold Turkish defense and slotted in his right-foot shot.

Six minutes into the second half Israel managed to double their lead with a textbook move. Hapoel Petah Tikva's Yossi Shivhon exchanged passes with Maccabi Tel Aviv's Reuven Oved whose cross beat Atacan Ozturk in the Turkish goal before being tapped in by Kfir Tzukul from five meters out.

Israel sat on their lead after Tzukul was substituted in the 64th minute, and a minute later the visitors pulled a goal back when Ibrahim Yavuz's shot beat Hapoel Tel Aviv's Galil Ben-Sha'anan and flew into the roof of the net after a mix-up inside the Israeli box.

SPORTS *in brief*

Dundee clubs might hold merger talks

GLASGOW (Reuters) – Officials at Scottish premier league club Dundee said yesterday that they want to talk to city rivals Dundee United about a possible merger.

Dundee chairman Peter Marr said: "Football is a business and mergers happen in business. If there is a feeling that this is the way ahead, then we could ask for talks with United."

Dundee, who last won the championship in 1962 and reached the European Cup semifinals the following year, have seen their crowds decline and are heavily in debt.

United – who last won the title in 1983 and were UEFA Cup finalists in 1987 – might not be so keen to merge although they said yesterday they would be prepared to talk.

The two clubs in a city of 180,000 people are the closet geographic rivals in British football. Their grounds, Dens Park (Dundee) and Tannadice (United) are just 160 meters apart.

Both teams are currently in the bottom half of the premier league table.

Everton win race to sign Weir

LIVERPOOL (Reuters) – Everton have beaten off competition from both Leeds and Liverpool to sign Hearts' Scottish World Cup defender David Weir.

The 28-year-old would have been available on a free contract in the summer under the Bosman rule but decided to join Everton now despite the threat of relegation at the Merseyside club.

Weir, capped 10 times, is reported to have cost the premier league strugglers £250,000.

Hill sacked as Gloucester coach

LONDON (Reuters) – English first division rugby club Gloucester have sacked director of coaching Richard Hill, the club said yesterday.

Former French captain Philippe Saint-Andre will take over for the rest of the season.

Saturday's 31-20 home defeat by Harlequins was their 11th in 20 league games and left them ninth in the 14-team divison. Hill had been in charge since 1995.

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VEHICLES – Tel Aviv

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MERCEDES CONVERTIBLE 500 SL automatic, soft top plus hardtop, all white, first registered 1994. Car as new $39,000. Call Mark 03-527-0621. [794178]

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MUSSO LUXURY 4X4 jeep, 1995–1996, diesel manual, air conditioning, power steering, seats 7 people, very comfortable and safe. $12,900. Call Aron. Tel. 052-409-374. [794178]

MUSSO LUXURY 4X4 jeep 1994–95, diesel, manual, air condition, power steering, seats 7 people, very safe. $11,900. Call Michael Tel. 053-876-662. [794178]

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VEHICLES – Sharon Area

PASSPORT

1999 DAIHATSU CHARADE, new, 7,500 km, A/C, CD, alarm, warranty. Tel. 06-623-1157. [796755]

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Penguins' winning streak reaches 10

PITTSBURGH (AP) – German Titov and Alexei Morozov scored twice and the Pittsburgh Penguins extended the second-longest winning streak in team history to 10 by beating the Washington Capitals, 7-3 on Monday.

Jaromir Jagr, the NHL's leading scorer with 85 points, had a goal and three assists and now has 25 points during the Penguins' longest winning streak since they won a league-record 17 in a row on 1993.

The streak is the second longest in the NHL this season to Colorado's recent 12-game run and has enabled the Penguins to close within two points of idle Philadelphia for the Atlantic Division lead.

Lightning 3, Islanders 3

Vincent Lecavalier assisted on one goal and then scored with 9:31 left in regulation as visiting Tampa Bay came from behind for a tie in a game between the bottom two teams in the Eastern Conference.

The tie ended an eight-game losing streak for Tampa Bay, which also suffered through losing streaks of nine and seven games earlier in the season. It was the second straight tie for the Islanders, who are winless in their last five.

Blues 8, Canucks 1

Pierre Turgeon had a goal and two assists and Pavol Demitra had three assists as St. Louis snapped their five-game home losing streak.

The Blues have won eight straight against the Canucks.

Sabres 3, Hurricanes 2

Michael Peca broke a tie in the third period and Dominik Hasek made 36 saves as Buffalo won at home.

Miroslav Satan scored and James Patrick notched his first goal of the season for Buffalo, which played a spirited third period after allowing 30 shots in the first two.

Senators 6, Blackhawks 2

Alexei Yashin had two goals and an assist and Wade Redden added two goals as Ottawa won at home.

Shawn McEachern and Vaclav Prospal also scored for the Senators, who had scored only nine goals in their last six games.

Devils 3, Maple Leafs 3

Garry Valk got a gift goal late in the second period when New Jersey defenseman Lyle Odelein tipped a shot past Martin Brodeur, giving visiting Toronto a tie.

Bryan Berard and Derek King also scored for Toronto in its first game since a 6-2 loss to Chicago on Saturday night in an emotional final game at Maple Leaf Gardens.

Sharks 2, Panthers 2

Host Florida's Ray Whitney scored two goals, including one with 6:17 to play, as the Panthers and Sharks skated to a tie.

Rangers 7, Predators 4

Wayne Gretzky had five assists and Adam Graves scored two goals as visiting New York snapped a three-game losing streak.

The Rangers never trailed as they scored two goals within 33 seconds and added a third in the first 7:38. The Predators pulled goaltender Mike Dunham then after he stopped just four of the first seven shots he faced.

ALL CLEAR – Senators goalie Damian Rhodes clears the puck as Blackhawks' Nelson Emerson looks for another shot. Ottawa won 6-2. (Reuters)

Mighty Ducks 3, Kings 1

Tomas Sandstrom tied the score on a power play in the second period and got the go-ahead goal on a penalty shot with 13:20 remaining as visiting Anaheim beat its Southern California neighbor.

Stars 4, Oilers 1

Brett Hull scored two goals in the game's first 2:37 as Dallas won at home.

Brett's Hall of Fame father, Bobby, was making his first visit to Dallas and watched from the press box. Bobby Hull finished his career with 610 goals, and his son is moving up the list with 577.

Grant Marshall and Joe Nieuwendyk also scored for the Stars.

Tampa Bay 1 0 2 0–3
N.Y. Islanders 1 1 1 0–3
First Period–1, Tampa Bay, Tucker 15 (Betik), 2:04. 2, New York, Czerkawski 13 (Linden, Jonsson), 15:54. Second Period–3, New York, Palffy 10 (Laponte), 1:18. Third Period–4, Tampa Bay, Nylander 3 (Lecavalier, Betik), 6:08. 5, N.Y. Islanders, Palffy 11, 7:10. 6, Tampa Bay, Lecavalier 9 (Kubina, Nylander), 10:29. Overtime–None. Shots on goal–Tampa Bay 7-11-7-0–25. New York 6-11-9-5–31. Goalies–Tampa Bay, Schwab. New York, Salo A–10,163 (16 297).

Vancouver 0 1 0–1
St. Louis 5 2 1–8
First Period–1, St. Louis, Mayers 2 (Rheaume, Eastwood), 5:25. 2, St. Louis, Pellerin 13 (Demitra, Turgeon), 5:46. 3, St. Louis, Young 13 (Conroy, Campbell), 12:19. 4, St. Louis, MacInnis 16 (Turgeon, Demitra), 12:55. 5, St. Louis, Turgeon 19 (MacInnis, Demitra), 16:21 Second Period–6, Vancouver, Brashear 7 (McCabe, Naslund), 5:48 (pp). 7, St. Louis, Rheaume 7 (Eastwood, Helmer), 7:22. 8, St. Louis, Yake 7 (Twist, Finley), 12:13 Third Period–9, St. Louis, Persson 1 (Handzus, Yake), 7:41. Shots on goal–Vancouver 4-7-10–21. St. Louis 13-8-6–27. Goalies–Vancouver, Snow, Hirsch. St. Louis, McLennan, Johnson A–16,197 (19,260).

Carolina 1 1 0–2
Buffalo 1 1 1–3
First Period–1, Buffalo, Satan 24 (Peca, Zhitnik), 6:10. 2, Carolina, Gelinas 9 (Kron, Coffey), 9:51. Second Period–3, Buffalo, Patrick 1 (W.Primeau, Grosek), 5:59 4, Carolina, Gelinas 10 (Kron), 12:41. Third Period–5, Buffalo, Peca 21 (Rasmussen, Patrick), 4:04 Shots on goal–Carolina 16-14-8–38 Buffalo 12-8-16–36 Goalies–Carolina, Irbe. Buffalo, Hasek. A–18 595 (18,595)

Chicago 0 1 1–2
Ottawa 2 1 3–6
First Period–1, Ottawa, Yashin 25 (Dackell, Kravchuk), 3:01. 2, Ottawa, Redden 6 (Johansson, Yashin), 15:52 (pp) Second Period–3, Ottawa, Prospal 5 (McEachern, Alfredsson) 4:37. 4, Chicago, White 5 (Probert, Laflamme), 18:34 (pp). Third Period–5, Ottawa, McEachern 26 (York, Alfredsson), 3:42. 6, Chicago Chelios 7 (Laflamme, Gilmour), 11:55. 7, Ottawa, Redden 7 (Sarault Van Allen), 13:55 8, Ottawa, Yashin 26 (Laukkanen, Johansson), 14:58 Shots on goal–Chicago 11-5-8–24 Ottawa 9-11-10–30 Goalies–Chicago, Thibault Ottawa, Rhodes. A–16,787 (18,500)

Toronto 2 1 0 0–3
New Jersey 2 1 0 0–3
First Period–1, Toronto, Berard 7 (Thomas, Warriner) 6:03 2, Toronto, D.King 19 (Kohn, Sullivan), 9:04. 3, New Jersey, Pandolfo 13 (Rolston, Bombardir), 15:54. 4, New Jersey, Holik 22 (Stevens), 17:53. Second Period–5, New Jersey, Arnott 12 (Elias, Niedermayer), 1:41 (pp). 6 Toronto, Valk 5 (Korolev, Yushkevich), 19:00. Third Period–None. Overtime–None. Shots on goal–Toronto 7-14-10-0–31. New Jersey 10-4-5-3–22. Goalies–Toronto, Joseph. New Jersey, Brodeur A–18,319 (19,040).

Washington 1 1 1–3
Pittsburgh 3 2 2–7
First Period–1, Washington, Juneau 12 (Oates, Bondra) 7:03. 2, Pittsburgh, Slegr 2 (Jagr, Miller), 11:45. 3, Pittsburgh, Morozov 6 (Kesa, Titov), 15:48. 4 Pittsburgh, Miller 13 (Straka, Jagr), 18:51 (pp). Second Period–6, Pittsburgh, Titov 9, 1:11 (sh). 6, Pittsburgh, Titov 10 (Barnes, Jagr), 6:17. 7, Washington, Bondra 27, 9:10. Third Period–8, Washington, Oates 9 (Svejkovsky), 1:56 9, Pittsburgh, Morozov 7 (Titov, Kesa), 12:46 10, Pittsburgh, Jagr 27 (Kovalev, Straka), 15:28 (pp). Shots on goal–Washington 7-12-13–32. Pittsburgh 11-6-4–21 Goalies–Washington, Kolzig, Tabaracci. Pittsburgh, Skudra. A–14,329 (16,958).

San Jose 1 0 1 0–2
Florida 0 1 1 0–2
First Period–1, San Jose, Friesen 17 (Sturm, Nolan), 7:33. Second Period–2, Florida, Whitney 16 (Kvasha, Laus), 8:47. Third Period–3, San Jose, Norton 3 (Friesen, Ricci), 10:50. 4, Florida, Whitney 17, 13:43. Overtime–None. Shots on goal–San Jose 6-10-10-1–27 Florida 14-9-7-3–33. Goalies–San Jose, Shields. Florida, Burke. A–18,700 (19,088).

N.Y. Rangers 4 2 1–7
Nashville 0 3 1–4
First Period–1, New York, Graves 25 (Gretzky, Samuelsson), 5:10. 2, New York, MacLean 20 (Nedved, Tamer), 5:43. 3, New York, Fedyk 4 (Schneider, Savard), 7:38. 4, New York, Harvey 11 (Graves, Gretzky), 14:08 (pp). Second Period–5, New York, Stevens 12 (Gretzky, Harvey). 4:41 (pp). 6, New York, Graves 26 (Harvey, Gretzky), 7:31. 7, Nashville, Johnson 15 (Atcheynum, Timonen), 10:38. 8, Nashville, Bordeleau 8 (Walker), 10:55. 9, Nashville, Walker 7 (Mowers, Brunette), 18:51. Third Period–10, Nashville, Fitzgerald 8, 7:50. 11, New York, Schneider 7 (Leetch, Gretzky), 16:47 (pp). Shots on goal–New York 12-7-9–28. Nashville 10-7-16–33. Goalies–New York, Cloutier. Nashville, Dunham, Vokoun. A–17,298 (17,298)

Anaheim 0 1 2–3
Los Angeles 0 1 0–1
First Period–None. Second Period–1, Los Angeles, Jokinen 6 (Perreault), 15:40. 2, Anaheim, Sandstrom 8 (Trepanier), 15:57 (pp). Third Period–3, Anaheim, Sandstrom 9 (penalty shot), 6:40. 4, Anaheim, Kariya 24 (Selanne), 19:09 (en). Shots on goal–Anaheim 10-11-8–29 Los Angeles 9-5-10–24. Goalies–Anaheim, Hebert. Los Angeles, Fiset. A–14,664 (16,005).

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia	28	12	13	69	170	113
Pittsburgh	30	15	7	67	170	139
New Jersey	30	18	7	67	161	140
N.Y. Rangers	21	26	7	49	147	151
N.Y. Islanders	16	33	7	39	132	171
Northeast Division						
Ottawa	30	16	8	68	158	117
Toronto	30	20	4	64	175	164
Buffalo	26	18	10	62	146	115
Boston	22	23	9	53	136	127
Montreal	21	27	8	50	128	147
Southeast Division						
Carolina	25	22	9	59	147	144
Florida	20	20	14	54	134	144
Washington	22	28	4	48	136	144
Tampa Bay	11	38	5	27	110	197

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	29	23	4	62	165	141
St. Louis	22	22	9	53	149	140
Nashville	19	31	5	43	127	178
Chicago	15	33	8	38	123	179
Northwest Division						
Colorado	29	21	5	63	149	134
Edmonton	21	25	8	50	146	142
Calgary	19	28	8	46	137	161
Vancouver	8	30	7	43	141	173
Pacific Division						
Dallas	33	10	8	74	151	104
Phoenix	29	14	10	68	141	109
Anaheim	23	23	9	55	145	134
San Jose	20	22	13	53	128	126
Los Angeles	20	31	4	44	129	149

World golf rankings

Official World Golf Ranking based on "players" performance throughout the world through February 14. The ranking is computed on a two-year rolling basis weighted toward the current year. Players earn points based on finish and strength of field:

Player, Country	Avg.
1. Tiger Woods, USA	12.48
2. David Duval, USA	11.25
3. Mark O'Meara, USA	9.49
3. Davis Love III, USA	9.49
5. Lee Westwood, Eng	9.10
6. Colin Montgomerie, Sco	8.63
7. Ernie Els, SA	8.64
8. Vijay Singh, Fij	8.49
9. Nick Price, Zim	8.35
10. Justin Leonard, USA	7.61
11. Jim Furyk, USA	7.29
12. Phil Mickelson, USA	7.10
13. Fred Couples, USA	6.88
14. Jumbo Ozaki, Jpn	6.77
15. Steve Elkington, Aus	5.90
16. Darren Clarke, NI	5.75
17. Jesper Parnevik, Swe	5.57
18. Payne Stewart, USA	5.56
19. Brian Watts, USA	5.14
20. Tom Lehmen, USA	5.09

(AP)

Backing the nice guys

Arsenal-Sheffield Utd replay can revive sagging moral

London Calling

Mark Rivlin

WHO says chivalry is dead? Never mind that these days English football resembles a UN coffee bar, you can always rely on dear old Blighty to raise the standard of gentlemanly conduct.

Arsenal's generous offer to replay the FA Cup fifth-round tie with Sheffield United was graciously received by United manager Steve Bruce.

This came after the incredible incident minutes from time when an intended pass to the Blades' goalkeeper Alan Kelly by Arsenal's Ray Parlour after Kelly had kicked the ball into touch to allow an injured teammate to be treated, was intercepted by Nwankwo Kanu who fed Marc Overmars to score.

Arsenal eventually won 2-1 amid extraordinary scenes at Highbury.

At 5.30 pm, Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger, having spoken with his chairman David Dein, offered a replay. By 6.30 pm, the FA had rubber stamped the proposal and the teams return to Highbury next week.

Cynics might suggest that Dein's gesture had more to do with the gate receipts of a replay than chivalry, but the most interesting part of this soap-like saga was the speed of the FA in making its decision.

Normally, getting anything agreed in under three months by the FA is filed under "lightning." This time, the FA was jumping at the chance to be associated with something positive – the notion of fair play.

And after a fortnight of Glenn Hoddle, annihilation by France at Wembley and a potential minefield involving the tampering of the floodlights at Charlton Athletic, the FA needed the opportunity to be seen backing the nice guys.

According to fans leaving the game, some Arsenal fans had actually left the ground in disgust when Overmars's goal stood and on television replays, the reaction of the crowd to the goal was muted. But has the FA set a precedent by overruling referee Peter Jones, who, after all, allowed the goal because there was no reason within the laws of the game for him not to do so?

Can we now hope that the 1986 World Cup quarter-final between Argentina and England be replayed after the intervention of Maradona's 'Hand of God?'

Perhaps the Australian cricket team will return the urn given they had the benefit of some dodgy run-out decisions.

NEARER to home, what about poor old West Brom who were denied a perfectly legitimate equalizer at Bolton by referee John Kirkby. Lee Hughes, who has already notched 27 goals this season, prodded the ball over the line, but Kirkby was badly positioned and ignored Albion claims for a goal. The giant screen at the Reebok stadium relayed every other incident in the thrilling 2-2 draw but chose not to show the Hughes "goal." This was possibly a wise move given the number of Albion fans present.

Interestingly, a similar incident to the Overmars goal occurred during the Wrexham-Preston Second Division game in January. On that occasion referee Brian Coddington chose to disallow a goal by Wrexham's Jeff Whitely who scored from a drop-ball following a break in play to tend an injured player.

Wrexham player-coach Ian Rush said that referee Jones should have had the common sense to disallow Overmars's goal on Saturday. "This has opened a real can of worms," Rush said on Sunday.

And the lawmakers have an ideal opportunity to discuss a possible rule change when the FIFA international board meets in Cardiff this weekend.

Maybe we should just let the matter rest in the knowledge that after 128 years of FA Cup football, this is supposedly going to be a one-off incident. Certainly if the clubs agree that the money will go to charity, then chivalry, common sense and generosity will be the deserved headlines for the rematch.

Another chivalrous declaration came from First Division Portsmouth whose players agreed to forgo their £200 win bonus for the rest of the season to help the club ease its financial crisis. The players held a meeting after the team's 2-1 victory over Bury and decided that given the debt of £7 million along with weekly losses of £35,000, they would set an example.

Their gesture may be too late – all of the club scouts were fired at the weekend and manager Alan Ball has threatened to resign if his back-room staff are fired in more cost-cutting measures.

ENGLAND'S sorry cricketers arrived home after the final insult of losing by a massive 162 runs to Australia to lose the one-day series. Captain Alec Stewart, defiant to the end, told reporters that England could still win the World Cup. The *Sunday People* tabloid was having none of it. "Alec, look at the scorecard!" was its response. After losing the Ashes, England started the one-day series brightly but lost six of their final seven games, with the defeat in Sydney on Thursday particularly galling.

England were coasting when Nasser Hussain was 'sledged' by Shane Warne – the batsman was goaded into a slog and was caught in the deep and the tail was ruthlessly exposed.

Strawberry already in hot water

NEW YORK (AP) – Spring training hasn't even started and already New York Yankees owner George Steinbrenner is on the back pages.

The object of his wrath was Darryl Strawberry, who missed an autograph show over the weekend.

"You make a commitment, you have to honor your commitment," Steinbrenner told the *New York Daily News*. "He didn't even have the courtesy to call Cash (general manager Brian Cashman) and tell him. That, I don't have any place for."

By Monday night, though, the Boss had calmed down after an apology from Strawberry. "Darryl called me personally Sunday night and I am very satisfied that it was not his intention to miss the event without notifying us," Steinbrenner said.

"Darryl thought that Brian Cashman had been told. It was a miscommunication, that's all," he said. Strawberry and pitcher Orlando "El Duque" Hernandez both missed Sunday's autograph session at the Florida State Fair.

Steinbrenner singled out the outfielder, who is recovering from colon cancer surgery.

Strawberry, signed to a $2.5 million minor-league contract, will join the Yankees at spring training in Tampa, Florida this week.

"For what we have done, bent over backwards for Straw, we've tried to understand his problems and worked with him," Steinbrenner said before the apology. "The Yankees guaranteed that salary. That's a lot of money, and we didn't have to. It's the last guy I expected to have pulled that."

Manager Joe Torre, David Cone, David Wells, Chuck Knoblauch, Ricky Ledee, Shane Spencer and coach Don Zimmer signed autographs Sunday.

NBA box scores

Detroit 22 11 18 18–69
New York 24 19 15 20–78
DETROIT (69) Hill 10-21 11-12 31, Vaught 4-7 0-0 8, Dele 4-12 1-2 9, Dumars 0-4 0-0 0, Hunter 1-6 1-2 3, Blackhouse 1-11 2-2 4, Macon 0-2 0-0 0, Reid 4-5 0-0 8, Montross 1-2 0-0 2, Buechler 1-3 0-0 2, J.Williams 0-5 2-2 2, Henson 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 26-78 17-20 69.
NEW YORK (78) Johnson 4-11 4-5 12, Thomas 4-5 0-0 8, Ewing 6-12 2-3 14, Houston 6-19 6-6 19, Ward 3-7 1-4 10, Camby 2-6 2-4 6, Childs 3-7 0-0 7, Dudley 1-1 0-0 2, Scott 0-1 0-0 0, Wingate 0-0 0-0 0, Brunson 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 29-68 15-22 78.
Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Detroit 49 (Dele 10), New York 52 (Ewing 10). Assists–Detroit 13 (Stackhouse 7), New York 24 (Ward 9). A–19,763 (19,763).

New Jersey 24 17 14 17–72
Miami 16 31 22 26–95
NEW JERSEY (72) Burrell 1-5 0-0 2, Van Horn 7-18 4-4 19, Williams 5-9 0-0 10, Gill 4-14 1-2 9, Kittles 1-13 2-2 5, Murdock 2-8 1-2 5, Gatling 3-8 0-2 6, Seikaly 3-5 1-2 7, Jones 1-5 0-0 2, McIlvaine 2-2 0-0 4, Evans 0-2 0-0 0, Boykins 1-1 0-0 3. Totals 30-88 9-14 72.
MIAMI (95) Majerle 0-5 1-2 1, Brown 5-10 2-5 12, Mourning 12-18 10-18 34, Walters 4-7 0-0 9, Hardaway 3-6 2-2 9, Strickland 1-1 4-4 6, Porter 2-9 3-4 8, Weatherspoon 1-5 9-10 11, Watson 1-2 0-0 2, Conlon 0-1 0-0 0, Edwards 1-2 0-0 3. Totals 30-66 31-45 95.
Fouled out–None. Rebounds–New Jersey 49 (Gill, Williams 9), Miami 64 (Mourning 17). Assists–New Jersey 10 (Kittles, Gill, Boykins, Burrell 2), Miami 14 (Hardaway, Majerle, Porter 3). A–15,200 (15,200).

Sacramento 29 23 24 27 9–112
Utah 28 30 23 23 17–120
SACRAMENTO (112) Webber 11-21 4-6 26, Williamson 3-6 3-4 9, Divac 2-7 4-4 8, Abdul-Wahad 4-6 1-2 10, Williams 6-17 3-3 19, Funderburke 4-7 4-4 12, Stojakovic 6-15 2-2 16, Ollie 1-4 0-0 2, Barry 2-4 4-4 10. Totals 39-89 25-29 112.
UTAH (120) Russell 8-11 7-8 25, Malone 8-20 10-10 26, Ostertag 1-2 1-1 3, Hornacek 5-8 2-3 13, Stockton 2-9 6-6 10, Fuller 1-2 0-0 2, Eisley 7-9 1-1 15, Foster 1-2 0-0 2, Anderson 5-9 3-4 13, Keefe 1-2 0-0 2, Bailey 4-6 1-4 9. Totals 43-80 31-37 120.
Fouled out–Webber, Divac, Williamson. Rebounds–Sacramento 41 (Webber 11), Utah 56 (Russell, Malone 9). Assists–Sacramento 24 (Williams 7), Utah 34 (Stockton 15). A–19,911 (19,911).

Phoenix 19 38 31 26–115
Denver 35 17 23 31–106
PHOENIX (115) McCloud 9-13 1-2 24, Gugliotta 3-14 4-4 10, Longley 3-5 2-2 8, Respert 0-1 0-0 0, Kidd 6-17 10-13 28, Manning 6-7 3-4 15, Robinson 5-8 1-4 11, Morris 5-7 0-0 12, Bailey 0-2 0-0 0, Brown 0-0 3-4 3, Garrity 2-5 0-0 4. Totals 42-78 24-33 115.
DENVER (106) Stith 6-11 9-9 23, McDyess 8-15 4-6 20, LaFrentz 1-10 0-0 2, Billups 7-18 1-4 20, Van Exel 7-17 5-7 21, E.Williams 2-6 3-4 7, Alexander 3-8 0-0 8, Fortson 1-1 2-2 4, Meyer 0-2 0-0 0, M.Williams 0-2 1-2 1, Washington 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 35-89 25-33 106.
Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Phoenix 56 (Kidd 11), Denver 52 (McDyess 12). Assists–Phoenix 26 (Kidd 13), Denver 24 (Van Exel 9). A–10,415 (17,171).

Dallas 18 10 30 26–84
Portland 31 20 20 28–99
DALLAS (84) Nowitzki 3-8 2-3 8, Green 1-3 0-0 2, J.Williams 3-5 0-0 6, Finley 6-14 8-8 21, Nash 7-10 1-1 19, Walker 2-12 1-3 5, Ceballos 2-6 0-0 4, Bradley 0-3 0-0 0, Trent 6-10 2-2 14, Pack 1-4 1-2 3, Strickland 0-1 0-0 0, Davis 1-3 0-0 2, Anstey 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 32-78 15-19 84.
PORTLAND (99) W.Williams 5-7 3-4 14, Grant 3-9 3-5 9, Sabonis 8-13 0-0 16, Rider 4-11 2-3 10, Stoudamire 6-16 1-2 14, Wallace 5-5 5-7 15, Augmon 2-5 0-0 4, Jackson 5-11 0-0 10, Cato 0-3 0-0 0, Anthony 3-7 0-0 7, O'Neal 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 41-87 14-21 99.
Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Dallas 57 (Walker 9), Portland 72 (Grant 15). Assists–Dallas 12 (Nash 4), Portland 27 (Sabonis, Stoudamire 9). A–18,231 (18,538).

Minnesota 16 33 28 22– 99
Golden State 32 23 22 24–101
MINNESOTA (99) Garnett 10-22 9-10 29, Smith 4-14 1-1 9, Garrett 11-14 0-0 22, Peeler 4-9 0-1 9, Marbury 4-9 2-2 11, Sealy 4-4 3-[illegible], Mitchell 1-8 4-4 6, Hammonds 0-5 1-2 1, Jackson 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 38-86 20-24 99.
GOLDEN STATE (101) Caffey 3-5 2-4 8, Mills 1-5 1-2 3, Dampier 5-9 3-6 13, Starks 4-13 3-4 13, Dale 7-13 0-0 17, Marshall 5-10 4-7 14, Jamison 7-8 6-9 21, Bogues 3-4 0-0 6, Cummings 1-8 4-4 6. Totals 35-75 23-36 101.
Fouled out–None. Rebounds–Minnesota 48 (Garnett 10), Golden State 56 (Dampier 14). Assists–Minnesota 25 (Marbury 10), Golden State 24 (Bogues 7) A–13,118 (19,280).

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CRITICS' CHOICE

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Pianist Boris Berman presents masterclasses at the Israel Music Conservatory in Tel Aviv today and tomorrow daily from 5 to 10 p.m. On Saturday, Berman performs a recital at the Tel Aviv Museum at 8:30 p.m. playing music by Debussy, Beethoven and Prokofiev.

The Zionist Confederation House in Jerusalem presents a tango evening tonight at 9 p.m. in which two ensembles, Tango Bar and Tango Project, perform both classical tango music and more contemporary tango fusion.

CHILDREN

RACHEL BELL

Especially for children, *How Did Bach Not Forget?* with Nitza Shaul, showcases festive dances and selections of Bach for the little ones aged four and up. Today and tomorrow at 4:30 and 6 p.m. at the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center. (Hebrew)

ENGLISH THEATER

HELEN KAYE

Ray Cooney's side-splitting farce *Run for Your Wife* with its West End cast opens its six-performance local tour tonight with director Leslie Lawton playing the nosy upstairs neighbor, Stanley, in this story of an ordinary chap who leads an ordinary life with his two wives until he has an accident, and ... Tonight at Beit Haheyal in Tel Aviv at 9.

Pianist BorisBerman presents master classes today and tomorrow in Tel Aviv. (Tsafrir Abayov)

RADIO

■ **VOICE OF MUSIC**

6:05 Schubert: 6 Moments Musicaux; Beethoven: Piano Sonata no 16 op 31/1 (Gould); Folk Song "The 3 Ravens"
7:07 Glass: Violin Concrto; Beethoven: Piano Sonata no 17 op 31/2 "Tempest"; Grieg: The Bridal Procession Passes By op 19/2
8:05 Beethoven: Piano Sonata no 19 op 31/3; Reich: Patgam; Bartok: Out-of-Doors Suite
9:05 Brahms: Clarinet Quintet op 115; Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto op 35; Beethoven: Piano Concerto no 1 op 15; Mozart: Symphony no 38 K504 "Prague"; Debussy: Nocturnes
12:00 Light Classical – works by Respighi, Verdi, Saint-Saens, Offenbach and Waldteufel
13:00 Artist of the Week – Ferenc Fricsay, conductor (36 years since his death 20.2.1963). Mozart: Requiem in D minor K626 (soloists / RIAS Choir / Berlin RIAS SO)
14:05 The Balkan Mass – second program
15:00 Keys – the Kronos Quartet plays music of Schnittke (1934-1992) – first program
16:00 Chopin: 24 Preludes op 28; Mahler: Das Klagende Lied
19:00 Pachelbel / Sverdlov: Canon; Stolzel: Aria "When You are at my Side"; Haydn: Serenade (Blair Quartet); Rheinberger: Sarabande; Schubert: Introduction and Variations for Flute and Piano op 160; Bruch: 9 Pieces for Clarinet, Viola and Piano op 83; Borodin: String Quartet no 1 in A
20:30 Artists in the Studio – Chen Halevi, clarinet / Shlomi Shaban, piano. Schumann: 3 Fantasiestücke op 73; Berio: Sequenza for Solo Clarinet; Denisov: Sonata for Solo Clarinet; Schumann: 3 Romances op 94
23:00 Golden Generation – Edwin Fischer, piano / third program. Beethoven: Sonata no 7 in D op. 10/3 (live recording from Hamburg – 16.12.1948); Mozart: Concerto no 20 in D minor K466 (London PO / 24.11.1933)

■ **RADIOWEST**

CNN news on the hour followed by RadioWEST local news
6:00 Morning Drive with Marc Berman (until 9:00)
7:45 Sports Update
8:08 Lions Trust Financial Update
9:00 Morning Brunch with Sharon Wagner (until 12:00)
12:00 Sound Advice with Aliya Tips from Hamagshimim
13:00 Memory Lane
15:00 Afternoon Drive with Dr. G (until 18:30)
17:45 Sports Update
19:30 Newsmakers with Mordechai Twersky
19:00 Lonely Soul in Town – Dave Bender
21:00 "The Great Divide" – panel discussion presented by Gesher22:00 West RockLine with Mark Garson
1:00 Late Night Music

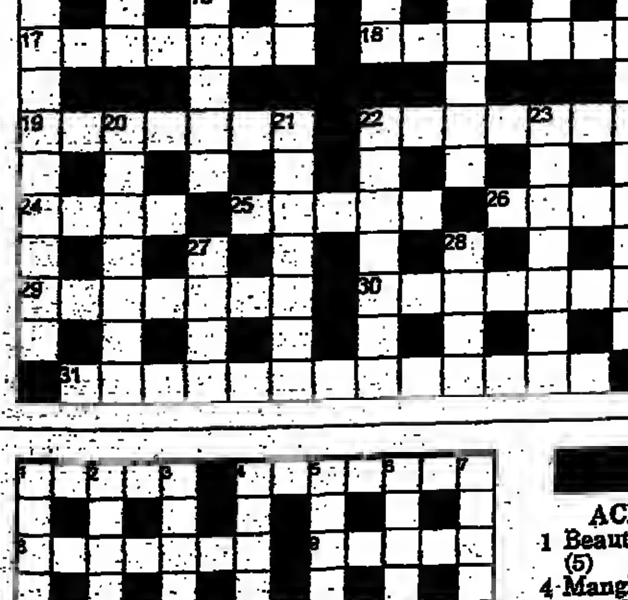
■ **BBC WORLD SERVICE**

6:00 The World Today
7:00 The World Today
8:00 The World Today
9:00 World News
9:15 Outlook
9:55 My Century
10:00 World News
10:05 Westway
10:20 Off the Shelf: Captain Corelli's Mandolin
10:35 One Planet
11:00 World News
11:05 Britain Now
11:20 World Ranking
11:50 Sports Roundup
12:00 Newsdesk
12:30 Britain Today
12:45 Legal World
13:00 Newsdesk
13:30 Sports International
14:00 World News
14:05 Outlook
14:45 Sports Roundup
15:00 Newshour
19:00 World News
16:05 One Planet
16:30 Meridian (live)
17:00 World News
17:05 Sports Roundup
17:15 From Our Own Correspondent
17:30 Jazzmatazz
18:00 World News
18:15 Insight
18:30 Multitrack: X-Press
19:00 Europe Today
19:30 World Business Report
19:45 Sports Roundup
20:00 World News
20:15 Britain Today
20:30 Sports International
21:00 World News
21:05 One Planet
21:30 Legal World
21:45 Off the Shelf: Captain Corelli's Mandolin
22:00 Newshour
23:00 World News
23:05 World Business Report
23:20 Britain Today
23:30 On Screen
00:00 World News

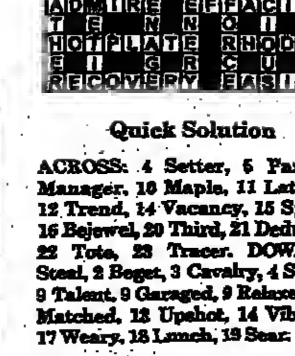
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Compulsory grounding for an aviator (6,7)
10 Clamp down on work force (7)
11 Available to discuss outside (4-3)
12 Place where economy of truth is fashionable (4)
13 Skip a beat and reduce (5)
14 Jar for a kind of berry (4)
17 The Magi seem upset in victory (4,3)
18 Sphere of vision (7)
19 Journey on such a train can only have one end (3-4)
22 Comfortable seat for a Turk (7)
24 Put point to a teetotal engineer (4)
25 Checks part of the rigging (5)
26 It's drunk in the East Indies (4)
29 Eastern city doctor, now rich (7)
30 Violet's in unusually poor condition (7)
31 The Celtic girl out to provide illumination (8,5)

DOWN
2 He pours out music from his lyre in Greek mythology (7)
3 Student caught with a dictionary (2-2)
4 Rubbish collector (7)
5 Porter is about to dispatch messenger (7)
6 Expected to end in mortal combat (4)
7 A river once more rises and falls (7)
8 A blow in the back (9,4)
9 Device should catch on, if handled properly (9,4)
15 Commonest name for a forger (5)
16 A mouthful of water! (5)
20 Ancient city in part of South Africa is unaffected (7)
21 US sportsman in jug (7)
22 Imply small company is involved in games, perhaps (7)
23 Oratorio is a new production in the network (7)
27 Revolutionary entertainment (4)
28 Baked beans need this lid for protection (4)



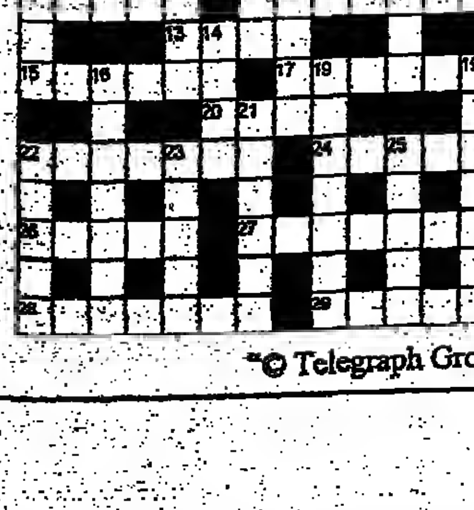
SOLUTIONS



Quick Solution

ACROSS: 4 Setter, 6 Part, 7 Manager, 10 Maple, 11 Lateral, 12 Trend, 14 Vacancy, 15 Sprig, 16 Bejewel, 20 Third, 21 Deduced, 22 Tote, 23 Tracer. DOWN: 1 Steal, 2 Beget, 3 Cavalry, 4 Swap, 9 Talent, 9 Garaged, 9 Relaxed, 10 Matched, 13 Upshot, 14 Vibrate, 17 Weary, 18 Lunch, 19 Sear.

QUICK CROSSWORD



ACROSS
1 Beautiful woman (5)
4 Mangle (7)
8 Aerodrome (7)
9 Goodbye (5)
10 Dust colour (5)
11 Corrected (7)
13 Worry (4)
15 Road material (6)
17 Wit (6)
20 Measure (4)
22 Vest (7)
24 Armistice (5)
26 Due (5)
27 Supportive (7)
28 Unvarying (7)
29 Outmoded (5)

DOWN
1 Bed covering (7)
2 Immature insect (5)
3 Sexual literature (7)
4 Shrivel (6)
5 Angry (5)
6 Dutch currency (7)
7 Circular (5)
12 Encounter (4)
14 Summit (4)
16 Leasing (7)
18 Paid (7)
19 Tripled (7)
21 Artist (6)
22 Scrub (5)
23 Lawful (5)
25 In bad condition (5)

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TV

■ **CHANNEL 1 (11)**

ARABIC PROGRAMS
6:30 News flash
6:31 News in Arabic
6:45 Good Morning Israel

■ **EDUCATIONAL TV**

8:00 Conversations about People
8:30 Radio Fever
9:00 Guitar for Beginners
9:30 Communication: The Human Imperative
10:00 For the very young
11:00 New Vision – children's current affairs
12:20 Sciences
13:30 Hanni's Room
14:30 Basketball Super League

■ **CHANNEL 1 (11)**

16:30 Zapzaps
16:59 A New Evening
17:35 Marked Places
18:15 News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS
18:30 Science Paths
19:00 News in Arabic

HEBREW PROGRAMS
19:30 The Simpsons
20:20 With Meni
21:00 News
21:30 One on One
22:05 The Lakes – part 4
23:00 Good Luck – weekly chat show hosted by Ehud Manor about success stories
23:30 News
00:00 Verse of the Day

■ **CHANNEL 2 (22)**

5:45 Today's programs
5:55 Song of the Day
6:00 Rupert Bear
6:30 Choco Tel-Ad
6:43 Coffee Tel-Ad
9:00 Third Time
10:00 Sorrow of Belgium
10:55 Dangerous Minds
11:45 Something So Right
12:10 Life's Work
12:35 Mega Movie Magic
13:00 Golden Age
13:30 Kate and Allie
14:00 Home and Away
14:30 Tick Tack
15:00 Disney Time
16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
16:50 Street Corner
17:00 Five with Gadi Sukenik
17:30 Sport TV
18:00 VIP
19:00 Posing with Yael Abecassis
19:30 Election Diary '99
20:00 News
20:30 Fact with Ilana Dayan
21:20 Ramat Aviv Gimmel
22:05 Avraham and Ya'acov
23:20 The Crow (1994) – drama about a dead rock star who rises from the grave to avenge the deaths of his fiancée and mother. With Brandon Lee and Ernie Hudson
00:00 News
00:05 The Crow (contd.)
1:30 Tel Aviv Jazz Festival
2:20 Red Sea Jazz Festival
3:10 Song for the Day

■ **JORDAN TV (31)**

Broadcasts passages from the Koran and news until the end of the official 40-day mourning period (March 20) following the death of King Hussein

■ **MIDDLE EAST TV (24/27)** (unconfirmed)

7:30 700 Club
8:00 TV Shopping
15:00 Rin Tin Tin
15:30 The Bionic Six
16:00 Woody Woodpecker
16:30 Donkey Kong District
17:00 700 Club
17:30 Arabic World News
18:00 CNN World of Entertainment
18:30 Coach
19:00 Wiseguy
20:00 Commish
21:00 NFL Classics
21:30 Italian League Soccer – semifinals
23:00 Late Night with David Letterman
23:30 CNN Entertainment
00:00 TV Shopping
2:00 700 Club

■ **ITV 3 (33)**

16.30 Dictator
17:30 Animation
18:00 Tears of Pain – Egyptian series (Arabic)
19:00 News in Arabic
20:00 Doctors Talk
20:30 Is it Legal?
21:00 News
21:30 Scent of Mint
23:00 Great Wonders of the World

■ **ETV 2 (23)**

15:30 Mathematics
16:00 Fairy Tales
17:00 Story Movie
18:00 Pique Nique
18:30 Marketing
19:00 Talks about People: Catherine the Great
19:30 Vis-a-Vis
20:00 New Evening
20:30 Tastes
20:55 Little Big Country
21:00 Twenty Plus
21:30 Comedy Company
22:00 In the Heat of the Night
22:45 Long Search

■ **CHANNEL 3**

6:30 Love Story with Yossi Siyas (r)
7:00 The Tonight Show with Jay Leno (r)
7:45 Good Evening with Guy Pines (r)
8:10 Celeste
9:00 Falcon Crest
9:45 The Young and the Restless (r)
10:30 Days of Our Lives (r)
11:15 Forever Little Women
12:00 Barnaby Jones
12:45 Dallas
13:30 Newsradio
14:00 Bewitched
14:25 I Dream of Jeannie
14:50 Ricki Lake
15:35 Judge Judy
16:00 Forever Little Women
16:45 Days of Our Lives
17:30 Friends
18:00 Good Evening with Guy Pines
18:30 Local Broadcast
19:00 The Young and the Restless
19:40 Melrose Place
20:25 La Femme Nikita (r)
21:10 Mad About You (r)
21:35 Veronica's Closet (r)
22:00 Yair Lapid Live at 10
22:30 Seinfeld (r)
23:00 The Tonight Show with Jay Leno
23:45 Good Evening with Guy Pines (r)
00:15 ER
1:05 Ghost Stories
1:50 Red Shoe Diaries

■ **MOVIE CHANNEL (4)**

11:30 Johnny Mysto (1995) – children's adventure. A magic aficionado finds a magic ring that takes him back to King Arthur's court
13:05 Man Alive (1945) – a man who is believed dead pretends to be a ghost in order to scare away his wife's new lover. With Pat O'Brien, Adolphe Menjou and Ellen Drew
14:25 Best of the Best 3: No Turning Back (1994) – action thriller about a youngster who takes on a gang of skinheads terrorizing a small town. With Phillip Rhee, Christopher McDonald and Gina Gershon
16:15 The Brady Bunch Movie (1995) – parody of the popular 1970s sitcom in which the family tries to maintain its high moral standards in Los Angeles of the 1990s. With Shelley Long and Gary Cole
17:45 Nelly and Monsieur Arnaud (French, 1995) – award-winning drama by Claude Sautet about the relationship between a young woman stuck in a failed marriage and a retired judge. With Emmanuelle Béart and Michel Serrault
19:40 Bonds of Love (1993) – true story of a slightly retarded man who falls in love with a normal woman and the trouble they face from their families. With Kelly McGillis, Treat Williams and Steve Railsback
21:10 Sentinel – action series
22:00 Final Impact (1991) – a form kickboxing champion adopts a protegé who will revenge his past defeat by a sadistic rival. With Lorenzo Lamas, Mike Worth and Jeff Langton
23:40 The Morning After (1986) – Sidney Lumet thriller about an alcoholic actress who wakes up in bed with a dead man and does not remember how it happened. With Jane Fonda, Jeff Bridges, Raul Julia and Diane Salinger
1:20 Bullets Over Broadway (1994) – Woody Allen comedy about a 1920s playwright who is given the opportunity to direct his play on Broadway. Will he agree to give a key role to his gangster financier's girlfriend? With John Cusack, Dianne Wiest, Jennifer Tilly, Chazz Palminteri and Mary-Louise Parker
3:05 When Night is Falling (1995, 93 mins.) – a lecturer at a Calvinist college who is engaged to a fellow lecturer has a lesbian affair with an uninhibited circus acrobat

■ **CHILDREN (6)**

6:30 Cartoons
8:05 Simba, the Jungle King
8:50 Snorks
9:05 Mozart and the Gang
9:30 The Smurfs
10:05 Ninja Turtles
10:35 Superman
10:55 Dexter's Lab
11:35 Calamity Jane
12:00 Bandana Brenda
12:30 The Muddles
13:00 Nils Holgersen
13:35 Simba, the Jungle King
14:05 The Little Bits
14:30 Arthur
15:05 The Smurfs
15:30 Ninja Turtles
16:05 Superman
16:25 Dexter's Lab
17:05 Cow and Chicken
17:30 Flipper
18:30 Crazy – with Gil Sassover
19:00 Moesha – reruns
19:30 Family Matters
19:55 Married with Children
20:20 Full House
20:45 The Fresh Prince of Bel Air – reruns
21:10 Lois and Clark

■ **SECOND SHOWING (6)**

22:00 Dr. Phibes Rises Again (1972) – a sequel to the British horror film, *The Abominable Dr. Phibes*. The disfigured doctor rises from the dead again, searching for a way to immortality for him and his wife. With Vincent Price, Robert Quarry and Peter Cushing
23:40 Suspicion (1941) – Alfred Hitchcock thriller. A happily married woman begins one day to suspect her husband is trying to kill her. With Cary Grant, Joan Fontaine (who got an Oscar as the wife), Nigel Bruce and Cedric Hardwicke

■ **CHANNEL 8**

6:00 Open University (rpts from Tuesday at 23:30)
8:00 Shablul: Lions and Hyenas (r)
8:30 Beyond 2000 (r)
9:00 Telenovela (r)
9:50 Swan Lake – performed by the Kirov Ballet
12:00 Tattoos
12:25 From Monkeys to Apes, part 2 (r)
12:55 Hunt For Amazing Treasures (r)
13:20 3,000 Mile Garden (r)
13:50 The Next Step (r)
14:15 The Mind Traveller (r)
15:10 Future Fantastic (r)
16:05 Soviet Echoes: Rewards and Punishment – Shostakovich and his complex relationship with the authorities
17:00 Open University: Faces of Culture
17:30 Open University: Organelles and Origins
18:00 Open University: Drama, Play, Performance
19:00 From Monkeys to Apes, part 3 – 12-part series about monkeys, apes and humans
19:30 Hunt For Amazing Treasures, part 7 – a variety of wonders
20:00 3,000 Mile Garden, part 5 – correspondence about food and gardening
20:25 The Next Step
21:00 The Mind Traveller, part 7 – deaf people who cannot use sign language
21:55 Future Fantastic, part 4 – Gillian Anderson hosts an examination of advances towards the colonization of space
22:45 From Monkeys to Apes (see 19:00)
23:15 Hunt For Amazing Treasures (r)
23:40 Open University: Born Talking
00:25 Open University: Archeology
00:55 Open University: Universe, Infinite Frontiers
1:40 From Monkeys to Apes
2:05 Hunt For Amazing Treasures (r)
2:30 3,000 Mile Garden (r)

■ **STAR WORLD (18/15)**

6:00 The Pretender (r)
7:00 Oprah Winfrey Show
6:00 Santa Barbara
9:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
9:30 Burt Wolf's Menu
10:00 Snowy River, The McGregor Saga
11:00 Mysterious Island
11:30 Small Wonder
12:00 The Brittas Empire
12:30 World News
13:00 Asia News & World Business Report
13:30 Home Improvement
14:00 Space Island One
15:00 Big Easy
16:00 Murder Call
17:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
17:30 Home Improvement
18:00 Space Island One
19:00 Big Easy
20:00 Murder Call
21:00 Home Improvement
21:30 Newhart
22:00 The Brittas Empire
22:30 The Bold and the Beautiful
23:00 The Wonder Years
23:30 Mr. Belvedere
00:00 Aerobics Oz Style
00:30 World News
1:00 Home Improvement
1:30 Candid Camera
2:00 Jack Hanna's Animal Adventure
2:30 The Brittas Empire

■ **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC (17/19)**

6:00 Mummies of the Takla Makan (r)
7:00 CNBC – finance and business news and reports
13:00 Pandas: a Giant Stirs
14:00 China Voyage (r)
15:00 The Superliners: Twilight of an Era – a nostalgic look at superliners
16:00 Deep into the Labyrinth (r)
16:30 The Mountain Sculptors (r)
17:00 Buddha on the Silk Road (r)
18:00 Wrecks of the Condor Reef (r)
19:00 Mummies of the Takla Makan (r)
20:00 Kiwi: a Natural History – the kiwi bird of New Zealand
21:00 Signals in the Sea – how marine mammals evolve in reaction to their environment
21:30 Hoverdoctors – travelers to the deep jungle of New Guinea
22:30 Mischievous Meerkats – social aspects of mongooses
23:30 Skis Against the Bomb – WWII Norwegian resistance fighters (r)
00:00 Chesapeake Borne – life in Chesapeake Bay
1:00 Spice Islands Voyage – travels in Indonesia
2:00 Kiwi: a Natural History

■ **BBC WORLD (13/14)**

News on the hour
6:30 USA Direct (r)
7:30 Reporters (r)
8:30 Holiday (r)
9:30 Hard Talk (r)
10:30 Reporters (r)
11:30 Hard Talk (r)
12:30 The Travel Show (r)
13:00 The World Today
14:30 Reporters (r)
15:00 World News and Business Report
15:30 The World Today
16:30 Talking Movies (r)
17:30 Hard Talk
18:30 Reporters (r)
19:30 Holiday (r)
20:00 The World Today
21:30 Hard Talk (r)
22:30 Money Programme
23:05 World News and Business Report
23:30 Top Gear Waterworld
00:10 Europe Direct
1:30 World Business Report
1:45 Asia Today (r)
2:30 Holiday (r)

■ **CNN INTERNATIONAL (12)**

News throughout the day
6:15 American Edition
6:30 World Report
7:05 CNN This Morning
7:30 Insight
8:00 CNN This Morning
8:30 Moneyline (r)
9:00 CNN This Morning
9:30 World Sports
10:00 CNN This Morning
10:30 Showbiz Today
11:00 Larry King (r)
12:30 World Sport
13:15 American Edition
13:30 Biz Asia
14:30 Business Unusual
15:15 Asian Edition
15:30 World Report
16:30 Showbiz Today
17:30 World Sport
18:30 Style!
19:00 Larry King Live (r)
20:45 American Edition
21:30 World Business Today
22:30 Q&A with Riz Khan
23:00 News Europe
23:30 Insight
00:00 World Business Today
00:30 World Sport
1:00 World View
1:30 Moneyline Newshour
2:30 Showbiz Today
3:15 Asian Edition
3:30 Q&A (r)
4:00 Larry King Live
5:30 CNN Newsroom

■ **SKY NEWS (14/13)**

News on the hour
6:30 Showbiz Weekly
7:30 CBS Evening News
8:00 Sunrise
12:30 Sky World News
13:30 Money
16:30 Prime Minister's Questions
18:30 Sky World News
19:00 Live at Five
21:30 Sportline
22:30 Sky Business Report
23:30 Sky World News
00:00 Prime Time
2:30 CBS Evening News

■ **CHANNEL 5 (05)**

6:30 Bodies in Motion
16:00 Bodies in Motion
16:30 College Basketball
17:30 English Cup Soccer
18:30 National League Volleyball
19:30 Sports News
20:00 European Basketball
21:45 NBA
23:00 English League Cup – semi-final: Tottenham vs Wimbledon

■ **EUROSPORT (15/16)**

9:30 Soccer – Eurogoals
11:00 Biathlon
12:30 Bobsleigh
13:30 Soccer
14:30 Golf
15:30 Live Tennis
16:00 Live Tennis
18:00 Live swimming
20:00 Motorsports
21:00 Four-Wheel Drive
21:30 Trial
23:00 Sumo
00:00 Darts
1:00 Motorsports
2:00 Car On Ice

PRIME TIME TV

	1	2	3	4	6	8
19:30	The Simpsons	Elections Diary '99	Melrose Place	Bonds of Love	Family Matters Married with Children	Hunt for Amazing Treasures
20:00		News				3,000 Mile Garden
20:30	With Meni	Fact With Ilana Dayan	La Femem Nikita		Full House Fresh Prince of Bel Air	The Next Step
21:00	News		Mad About You	Sentinel	Lois and Clark	The Mind Traveller
21:30	One on One	Ramat Aviv Gimmel	Veronica's Closet			
22:00	The Lakes	Avraham and Ya'acov	Yair Lapid Live at 10	Final Impact	Suspicion	Future Fantastic
22:30			Seinfeld			From Monkeys to Apes
23:00	Good Luck		The Tonight Show with Jay Leno			

MOVIES

JERUSALEM
CINEMATHEQUE The Big Lebowski 5 • Alice 7:30 • La Vie Revee des Anges∞To Have and Have Not 9:30 **G.G. GIL** Jerusalem Mall (Malha) ☎ 9788448 You've Got Mail∞Sliding Doors 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Meet Joe Black 6, 9:30 • The Negotiator∞The Truman Show ∞Ronin 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Central Station 4:30, 7:15, 10 • ANTZ 4:30, 7:15 • Psycho 10 **JERUSALEM THEATER** The Milky Way 7, 9:30 • Central Station 7, 9:30 **RAV CHEN 1-7** ☎ 6792799 Credit Card Reservations ☎ 6794477 Rav-Mecher Building, 19 Ha'oman St., Talpiot Little Voice∞There's Something About Mary∞Life is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞The Siege 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Beloved 6:15, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 **MEVASSERET ZION G.G. GIL** ☎ 5700868 There's Something About Mary 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Psycho 4:45, 7:15, 10 **SMADAR** ☎ 5619168 Happiness 4:30, 10 • Velvet Goldmine 7:30

TEL AVIV
DIZENGOFF Central Station 11 a.m., 1, 3:15, 5, 7:45, 10 • Sliding Doors 11 a.m., 1, 3:15, 5:30, 10 • Washington Square 11 a.m. • Character *(Dutch, Hebrew subtitles)* 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10 **GAT** ☎ 6967888 Beloved 3:15, 6:30, 9:45 **GLOBUS** ☎6081130/1 Head On 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • You've Got Mail∞Ronin∞The Truman Show 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 9, 9:30 • Psycho 7:30, 10 • ANTZ 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • The Negotiator 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Small Soldiers 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 **G.G. HOD 1–4** ☎ 5226226 Hod Passage, 101 Dizengoff St. Ronin∞The Truman Show 5, 7:30, 10 • The Big Lebowski 5, 7:30, 10 • The Negotiator 4:30, 7:15, 10 **LEV** ☎5288288 Velvet Goldmine 12 noon, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10 • Happiness 12 noon, 4, 7, 9:45 • Girls' Night 12:30, 2:45, 5:15, 7:30 • The Dream Life of Angels 12 noon, 2:30, 5, 7:45, 10 • Hana-Bi 9:45 **LEV AVIV** ☎6417148 Velvet Goldmine∞Girls Night 7:30, 10 • The Dream Life of Angels∞Nights of Cabiria∞ Hana-Bi 7:30, 10 **LIMOR** ☎6968084 Shall We Dance 9 • Empire of the Senses 10 • The Big Lebowski Fri. 8; Sat. 8; Sun-Wed. 9 **G.G. PE'ER** ☎5442141 You've Got Mail∞The Truman Show 5, 7:30, 10 • ANTZ 5, 7:30 • Meet Joe Black 9, 9:30 • The Negotiator 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Psycho 10 **RAV-CHEN** ☎ 5282288 Dizengoff Circle I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞The Siege 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 • Stepmom 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 • Holy Man 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Snake Eyes 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 **RAV-OR 1-5** ☎ 5102674 Opera House Little Voice∞There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Next Stop Wonderland∞Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • The Mighty 5, 7:30, 9:45 **TEL AVIV MUSEUM** My Son The Fanatic 5, 9, 10

HAIFA
CINEMA CAFÉ AMAMI ☎8325755 Sliding Doors 7:15, 9:30 • Girls' Night 7:15, 9:30 **CINEMATHEQUE** ☎ 8383424 Student Movie Marathon 7 • Basquiat 9:30 • Karahana 10:30 **MORIAH** ☎ 8242477 Happiness 7, 9:30 **ORI** ☎8500056 You've Got Mail 4:45, 7:15, 10 • The Truman Show∞Ronin 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Meet Joe Black 6, 9:30 • Psycho 4:45, 7:15, 10 • ANTZ 4:45, 7:15, 10 • The Negotiator 4:30, 7:15, 10 **PANORAMA** ☎ 8382020 You've Got Mail∞Central Station 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Meet Joe Black 9, 9:15 • ANTZ 4:15 **RAV-CHEN** ☎8500055 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞The Siege 4:45, 7:15, 9:30 • There's Something About Mary 4:45, 7:15, 9:30 • Stepmom 4:30, 7, 9:30 • 54 5, 7:15, 9:30 • Rush Hour Fri. 7:30, 10, 12:15 a.m. **RAV-GAT 1-2** ☎ 8674311 Rounders 7, 9:30 • Enemy of the State 7, 9:30 **RAV-MOR 1-7** ☎ 8416898 Little Voice 5, 7, 9:30 • Beloved 9, 9:15 • I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞Life is Beautiful 4:45, 7, 9:30 • The Siege 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Stepmom 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Enemy of the State 4:30, 7, 9:30 **RAV-OR 1-3** ☎ 8246553 Little Voice 5, 7:15, 9:30 • Beloved 9, 9:15 • Life Is Beautiful 4:45, 7, 9:30

AFULA
RAV CHEN I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 7:15, 9:30 • Enemy of the State 7, 9:30 • Life Is Beautiful 7:15, 9:30

ARAD
STAR ☎ 9950904 Ronin∞The Truman Show 5, 7, 10 • ANTZ 5, 7, 10

ASHDOD
G.G. GIL ☎ 9647202 You've Got Mail∞Psycho 5, 7:30, 10 • The Truman Show∞The Big Lebowski 5, 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 9, 9:30 **RAV CHEN** ☎8661120 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞The Siege∞There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Holy Man 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Stepmom∞Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

ASHKELON
G.G. GIL ☎ 9729977 You've Got Mail∞Psycho∞Sliding Doors 5, 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 6, 9:30 • Washington Square∞Sliding Doors 5, 7:30, 10 **RAV CHEN** ☎6711221 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞The Siege 5, 7:30, 9:45 • There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Stepmom 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

BAT YAM
RAV CHEN ☎ 5531077 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Life is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • The Siege∞You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 • Meet Joe Black 5:30, 9 • Stepmom 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

BEERSHEBA
G.G. ORI ☎6103111 You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 6, 9:30 • Washington Square∞The Truman Show 5, 7:30, 10 **RAV-NEGEV 1-4** ☎6235278 Little Voice∞I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞The Siege 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

EILAT
EILAT CINEMA I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞The Siege 7:30, 10 **GIL** ☎6340182 You've Got Mail∞Washington Square 5, 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 6, 9:30

HADERA
LEV ☎6343555 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 6:30, 9:30 • The Siege∞Enemy of the State 7:15, 10

HERZLIYA
COLONY ☎6902666 Enemy of the State 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 • Life is Beautiful 5:30, 7:30, 10 **DANIEL** ☎ 9544044 Stepmom 7:30, 10 **STAR** ☎ 9589068 You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 6:15, 9:30 • Enemy of the State 7:15, 10 • ANTZ 4:45

HOD HASHARON
GIL ☎ 7408591 You've Got Mail∞I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10 • The Siege 4:45, 7:15 • Meet Joe Black 9:30 • ANTZ 5 • Psycho 7:30, 10

HOLON
GLOBUS You've Got Mail∞I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10 • The Siege 5, 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 9, 9:30 • Stepmom 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 10 **STAR** I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 7:30, 10 • The Siege 7:30, 10 Stepmom 7:15 • The Truman Show 10 • Sliding Doors 7:30, 10

KARMIEL
CINEMA ☎9882521 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 7:15, 9:30 • The Siege 7, 9:30 • Enemy of the State 7, 9:30

KFAR SAVA
G.G. GIL ☎7677370 Yo've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • Life is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 6, 9:30 • The Siege 5, 7:30, 10 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Central Station 5, 7:30, 10

KIRYAT BIALIK
G.G. GIL ☎9779877 You've Got Mail∞Stepmom 7, 9:30 • Meet Joe Black 7, 9:30 • ANTZ∞There's Something About Mary 7, 9:30 • The Negotiator∞ Psycho 7, 9:30 • Ronin 7, 9:30

KIRYAT SHMONA
G.G. GIL ☎6905080 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞You've Got Mail 4:30, 7, 9:30 • ANTZ 4:30 • Psycho 7, 9:30

NAHARIYA
G.G. GIL I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 10 • Siege 5, 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 9, 9:30 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 10

UPPER NAZARETH
G.G GIL ☎6591332 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞Milky Way 4:30, 7, 9:30 • The Siege∞There's Something About Mary 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Psycho 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Stepmom∞Enemy of the State 4:15, 7, 10 • Meet Joe Black 6, 9:30

NESS ZIONA
G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 9404729 You've Got Mail∞There's Something About Mary 5, 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 9:30 • Stepmom 4:45, 7:15, 10 • ANTZ 5, 7:30

NETANYA
G.G. GIL 1-5 ☎ 8628452 Central Station∞You've Got Mail∞The Truman Show 5, 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 6, 9:30 • The Negotiator 10 • ANTZ 5, 7:30 **RAV CHEN** ☎ 8618570 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • The Siege∞Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

OR AKIVA
RAV CHEN ☎ 6262758 The Siege∞ Life Is Beautiful 7, 9:30 • Enemy of the State 7, 9:30

OR YEHUDA
G.G. GIL 1-4 ☎ 5333292 There's Something About Mary∞The Truman Show 7:30, 10 • Sliding Doors 7:30, 10 • The Negotiator 7:15, 10

PETAH TIKVA
G.G. GIL 1-6 ☎ 9097989 Little Voice∞Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 10 • There's Something About Mary∞You've Got Mail 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 9, 9:30 • Stepmom 4:45, 7:15, 10 **G.G. HECHAL** ☎ 9317374 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 10 • The Siege 5, 7:30, 10

RA'ANANA
CIN MOFET ☎ 7482915 King of the Masks 8:30 **PARK** ☎ 7711321 Life Is Beautiful∞I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 10:15 • Stepmom 5, 7:30 • There's Something About Mary 10:15 • Happiness 7:15, 10 • My Son The Fanatic 5, 7:30, 10:15 **RA'ANAN** Little Voice 5, 7:30, 10:15 • You've Got Mail∞The Siege∞Enemy of the State 5, 7:30, 10:15 • Beloved 9, 9:15 • The Truman Show 5, 7:30, 10:15

RAMAT GAN
RAV-GAN 1-4 ☎ 9197121 You've Got Mail∞Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Stepmom 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 **RAV-OASIS 1-3** ☎ 6730687 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞Siege 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Meet Joe Black 5:30, 9

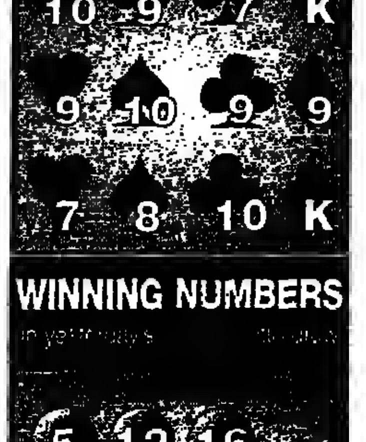
RAMAT HASHARON
KOKHAV ☎ 5491979 *Character* 4:45, 7, 9:30

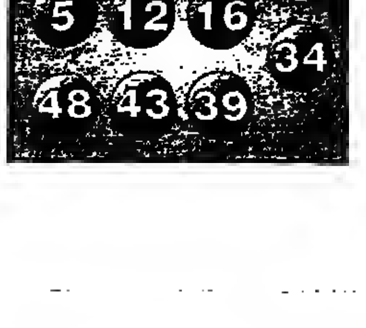
REHOVOT
CHEN ☎ 9362868 Little Voice∞Milky Way 7:30, 9:45 • Velvet Goldmine 7:15, 9:45 • Beloved 9:30 • Character 7:15, 9:45 **RAV MOR** ☎ 9493595 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer ∞You've Got Mail 5, 7:30, 9:45 • The Siege∞Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Meet Joe Black 5:30, 9 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

RISHON LEZION
GIL 1-3 ☎ 9500785 You've Got Mail∞Psycho 5, 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 9:30 • ANTZ 5, 7:30 **HAZAHAV** ☎ 9514968 You've Got Mail∞Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 10 • Meet Joe Black 9, 9:30 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 10 • ANTZ 5, 7:30 • Ronin 10 **RAV CHEN** ☎ 9670504 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer∞The Siege∞Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 **STAR** ☎ 9519985 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 7:30, 10 • The Siege 7:30, 10 • Stepmom 7:15 • The Truman Show 10 • Sliding Doors 7:30, 10

YEHUD
RAV CHEN ☎5367910 I Still Know What You Did Last Summer 5, 7:30, 9:45 • The Siege 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Life Is Beautiful 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Enemy of the State 4:45, 7:15, 9:4

All times are p.m. unless otherwise indicated. Telephone reservations (credit card) can be made for Golen Globus (G.G.) cinemas at 1-700-50-50-50





Asian battles

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Senators on ice

Page 18

Sports Editors: Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

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ISRAEL

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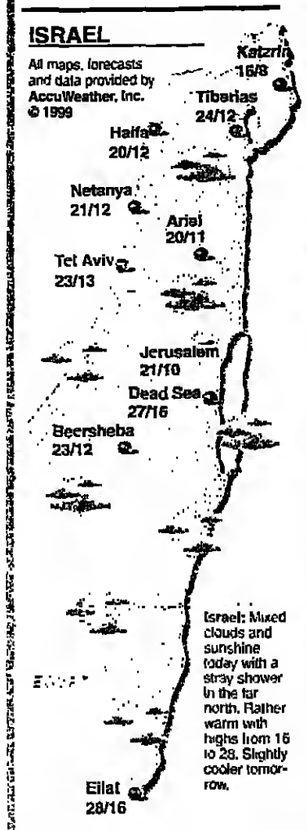


ISRAEL CITIES

City	Today High C/F	Today Low/W C/F	Thursday High C/F	Thursday Low/W C/F
Ariel	20/68	11/52/c	18/64	7/44/pc
Beersheba	23/73	12/53/c	20/68	9/48/pc
Dead Sea	27/80	16/61/c	25/77	13/55/pc
Eilat	28/82	16/61/pc	26/79	14/57/pc
Haifa	20/68	12/53/c	18/64	10/50/s
Jerusalem	21/70	10/50/pc	19/66	5/43/pc
Katzrin	16/61	8/46/c	18/64	5/41/s
Netanya	21/70	12/53/c	19/66	10/50/pc
Tel Aviv	23/73	13/55/c	21/70	11/52/pc
Tiberias	24/75	12/53/c	21/70	9/48/s

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

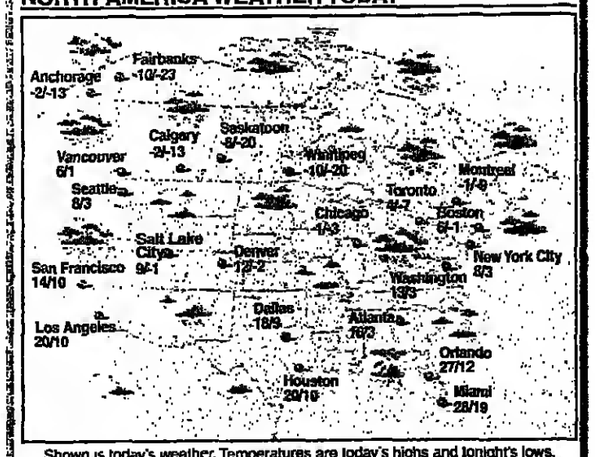
City	Today High C/F	Today Low/W C/F	Thursday High C/F	Thursday Low/W C/F
Amsterdam	1/34	-2/29/sn	4/39	4/39/sn
Beijing	12/53	-6/22/pc	1/34	-9/16/pc
Berlin	0/32	-3/27/sf	0/32	-2/29/sn
Brussels	0/32	-1/31/sn	5/41	4/39/sn
Cairo	26/79	14/57/pc	21/70	12/53/c
Chicago	1/34	-3/27/sf	0/32	-6/22/sn
Frankfurt	-4/25	-5/24/sn	-2/29	-6/22/sf
Hong Kong	21/70	16/61/s	21/70	13/55/pc
Johannesburg	28/82	18/61/pc	29/84	17/62/s
London	6/43	4/39/c	9/48	6/43/sh
Los Angeles	20/68	10/50/c	24/75	11/52/pc
Madrid	12/53	0/32/pc	12/53	2/35/pc
Mexico City	22/71	5/43/s	23/73	7/44/s
Montreal	-1/31	-9/16/sn	-2/29	-10/15/sn
Moscow	-3/27	-4/25/sn	-1/31	-3/27/sn
New York	8/46	3/37/r	7/44	0/32/r
Paris	4/39	1/34/c	8/46	3/37/sh
Prague	-2/29	-6/22/sn	-1/31	-5/24/sn
Rio de Janeiro	34/93	26/79/pc	29/84	24/75/pc
Rome	12/53	3/37/sh	9/48	1/34/s
Sydney	32/89	24/75/s	26/79	15/59/s
Tokyo	14/57	12/53/s	17/62	14/57/r
Toronto	4/39	-7/20/sn	1/34	-5/24/pc
Vienna	1/34	-6/22/sf	-1/31	-4/25/c
Warsaw	0/32	-6/22/sf	-2/29	-9/16/sn
Washington	13/55	3/37/r	9/48	1/34/c
Zurich	-2/29	-7/20/sn	1/34	0/32/sn

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

MOON PHASES

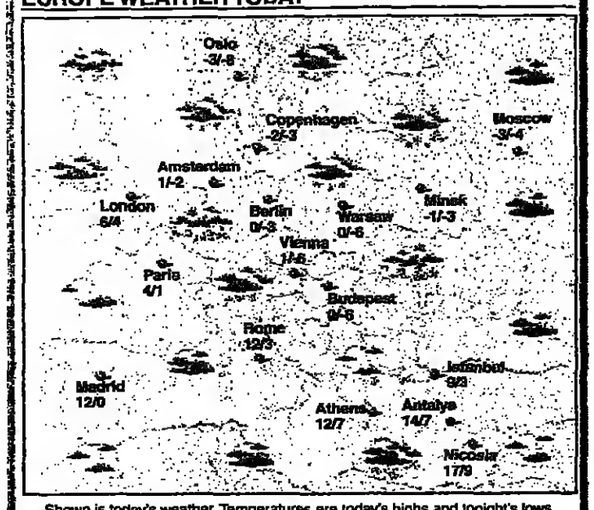
New	First	Full	Last
Feb 16	Feb 23	Mar 2	Mar 10

NORTH AMERICA WEATHER TODAY



Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

EUROPE WEATHER TODAY



Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

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EL AL Weekends

Dynamic duo quiet upstarts

Stockton-Malone lead Jazz to OT win over Kings

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) – The original Stockton-Malone combination is still better than the upstart impersonators from Sacramento. John Stockton and Karl Malone held off a spirited charge from Jason Williams and Chris Webber as the Utah Jazz beat the Kings 120-112 in overtime Monday night.

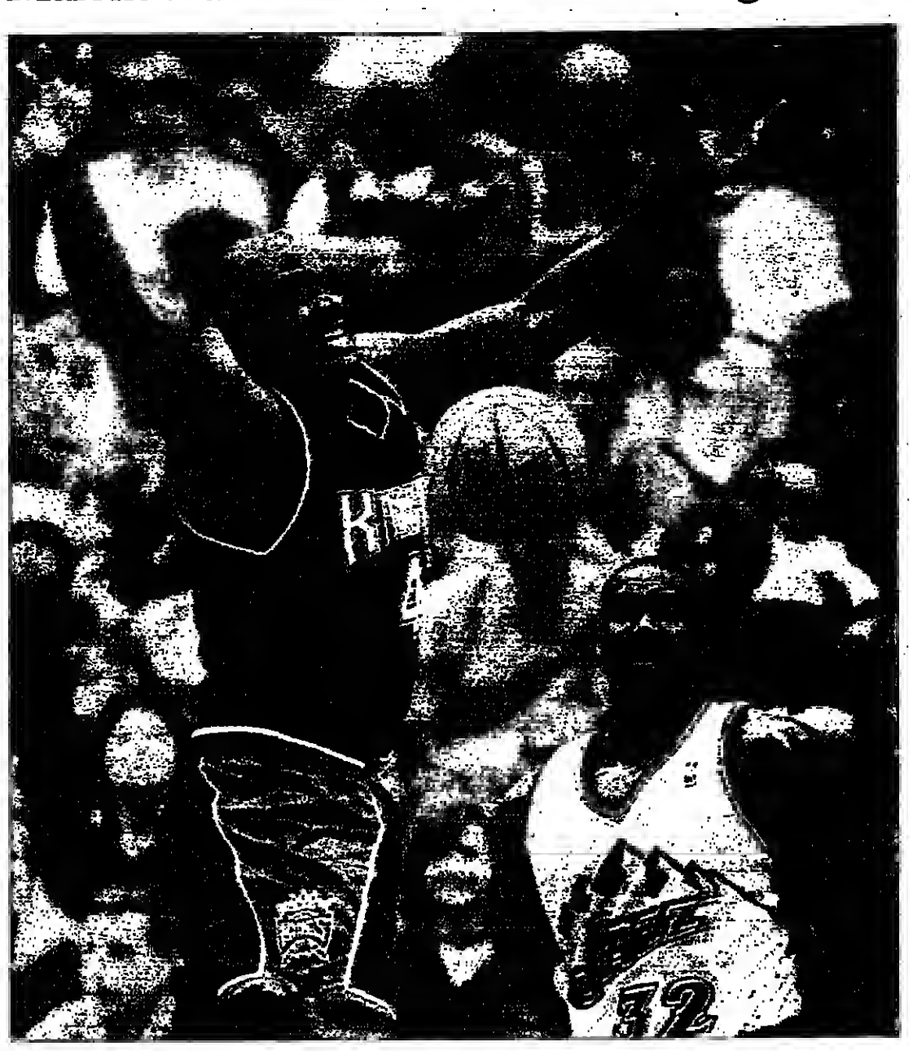
Sacramento appeared ready to upset the Jazz thanks primarily to standout efforts from rookie point guard Williams and new acquisition Webber that sparked memories of Stockton and Malone in their early days.

In just his fifth pro game, Williams had 19 points and seven assists, while Webber had 26 points and 11 rebounds before fouling out early in overtime.

"He plays with a lot of confidence, but their whole team does," Stockton said of Williams. "They're going to beat some people this year."

But not Monday night. Malone hit five free throws in the final minute of regulation to force overtime, and the Jazz made a 9-2 run to start the extra period and run their record to a franchise-best 6-0.

Box scores, Page 18



STRIPPED – Kings forward Chris Webber has the ball knocked away as Utah's Karl Malone looks on. The Jazz won in overtime, 120-112. (Reuters)

The moral victories, however, belonged to the Kings (2-3 with just one home game so far), who appear transformed from the moribund franchise that has made the playoffs just once in the last 12 years. And with Williams and Webber, they may have a young go-to combination similar to the one that has served the Jazz so well for so long.

Bryon Russell and Shandon Anderson combined for 12 points in overtime as Utah remained one of two undefeated teams heading into tonight's showdown with Seattle (5-0).

Malone, despite shooting just 8-for-20 from the field, led the Jazz with 26 points and nine rebounds. Russell had 25 points – seven in overtime – and nine rebounds.

Heat 95, Nets 72

Alonzo Mourning had 34 points, 17 rebounds and seven blocks as host Miami handed New Jersey its third straight loss.

P.J. Brown chipped in 12 points and nine rebounds for Miami, which has won 12 of its last 14 games against New Jersey.

Keith Van Horn paced the Nets with 19 points.

Suns 115, Nuggets 106

Jason Kidd had 28 points, 13 assists and 11 rebounds and George McCloud added 24 points as Phoenix won on the road.

Kidd was 9-for-17 shooting and posted his 20th triple-double as the Suns beat the Nuggets for the eighth consecutive time and second time this year.

Bryant Stith scored 23 points and Nick Van Exel added 21 for the Nuggets. Antonio McDyess, who played for the Suns last season, had 20 points.

Trail Blazers 99, Mavericks 84

Arvydas Sabonis had 16 points, 10 rebounds and nine assists for host Portland.

Rasheed Wallace added 15 points, while Damon Stoudamire and Isaiah Rider each had 14 points for Portland.

Michael Finley led Dallas with 21 points, and Steve Nash added 19.

Warriors 101, Timberwolves 99

Rookie Antawn Jamison scored 21 points, including the game-winning tip-in with four seconds left, as Golden State won at home.

Jamison added 11 rebounds in 29 minutes none more crucial than his tip of Terry Cummings' missed put-back after Donyell Marshall shot an air ball.

Minnesota's Kevin Garnett led all scorers with 29 points.

In a game reported in yesterday's edition:

Knicks 78, Pistons 69

Grant Hill scored 31 points, but the Knicks held the rest of Detroit's players in check.

Allan Houston scored 19 points, Patrick Ewing had 14, Larry Johnson 12 and Charlie Ward 10 for the Knicks.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	5	1	.833	—
Philadelphia	4	1	.800	½
New York	3	2	.600	1½
Miami	3	3	.500	2
Boston	2	2	.500	2
Washington	1	3	.250	3
New Jersey	1	4	.200	3½
Central Division				
Milwaukee	3	1	.750	—
Atlanta	4	2	.667	—
Indiana	4	2	.667	—
Detroit	3	3	.500	1
Cleveland	2	3	.400	1½
Toronto	1	3	.250	2
Charlotte	1	4	.200	2½
Chicago	1	4	.200	2½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	6	0	1.000	—
Houston	4	1	.800	1½
Minnesota	4	2	.667	2
San Antonio	4	3	.571	2½
Vancouver	2	3	.400	3½
Dallas	1	6	.143	5½
Denver	1	6	.143	5½
Pacific Division				
Seattle	5	0	1.000	—
Phoenix	4	2	.667	1½
Portland	3	2	.600	2
L.A. Lakers	3	3	.500	2½
Sacramento	2	3	.400	3
Golden State	2	5	.286	4
L.A. Clippers	0	5	.000	5

Pintures Badalona too good for Hapoel Jerusalem

European season ends after 93-74 loss in Spain

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

What a shame it had to end like this.

That's all Hapoel Jerusalem fans could say last night, and think of what might have been after coach Effy Birnbaum's club was thoroughly thrashed by Pintures Badalona, 93-74, sending the Spaniards to the Saporta Cup quarterfinals, and Hapoel home to concentrate on the Orange League.

What might have been had Kenny Williams not been stricken with sinusitis earlier this week? What might have been had H Waldman not suffered a back injury last month? Those are questions which will plague Jerusalem fans for months, but the truth of the matter is that with a little more concentration and mental toughness, they might have still pulled this one out.

But there are just only so many holes you can dig yourself and still climb out of them, and Jerusalem simply ran out of miracles last night. After escaping the Spaniards in Malha and Hapoel Holon in Holon following two awful first halves, Jerusalem proceeded to tempt fate again last night, digging themselves into a 52-37 halftime hole. But this time Pintures would have none of it, and resisted a brief Jerusalem spurt to end Hapoel's European season.

Once again it was Aaron Swinson who led Pintures. He scored seven early points, but Jerusalem was still within range, trailing 29-22, when the roof fell in.

With Erez Katz at the point for the undermanned visitors, the Catalonians applied pressure all over the court. Swinson either stole the ball or ended up with it after a steal. His three-point play with 4:45 left giving Pintures a 51-24 lead which appeared to knock any air Jerusalem still had out of its sails.

Hapoel, meanwhile, had trouble holding on to the ball and any kind of focus, and when they did could not get any offense untracked as the Spanish side bottled up Radisav Curcic and Williams was clearly not himself. A brief flurry at the end of the half brought Jerusalem back, but Pintures point guard Ivan Corrales hit a three-pointer at the buzzer to send Jerusalem down 15 at halftime, largely due to Swinson's amazing 24 points, on unconscious 11-for-12 shooting.

Things only got worse in the second half, again thanks to Swinson. A Jerusalem turnover and an offensive foul ended up as two Swinson hoops, and the Spaniards lead ballooned to 58-37. Only the departure of Darryl Middleton with four fouls midway through the half gave Hapoel an opportunity.

Two three-pointers by Mark Karver and a pair of baskets by Curcic got Jerusalem within striking range at 77-61, but then Hapoel continued firing up misguided threes.

Birnbaum inexplicably left Doron Shefa on the bench, when he might have helped in this regard, but Karver and Turgeman couldn't find the three-point range.

Pintures, meanwhile, made the most of almost every scoring opportunity off the misses, making use of its much deeper bench to put the game out of reach. In the end, what everyone thought would be a nail-biter turned out to be a laugher for Pintures.

Give the Spanish side full points for their tenacious defense and fight from the get-go, something that seemed sorely lacking in Hapoel's performance. They appeared to always believe they could do it. For almost a month, Jerusalem made a patchwork line-up hold together and even soar to the heights. Last night it came crashing down to earth, unfortunately at the worst possible time.

Curcic led Jerusalem with 27 points, while Hamilton added 21, and Williams was held to just nine. Swinson ended up with 37, while center Fran Murcia added 16 and played a strong game under the boards.

Paralyzed ex-NFLer takes first steps

PHOENIX (AP) – For the first time since he lay paralyzed on the Pontiac Silverdome turf seven years ago, former professional NFL player Mike Utley stood in public Monday and took a few wobbly steps.

"By standing up, you feel who you are," he said. "I was 315 pounds (142 kgs) and 6-foot-6 (1.95 meters). I was proud to be as big as I was. I was proud to be as tall as I am. I want it back."

Towering over everyone as he did so long ago, wearing a Detroit Lions T-shirt, the former offensive lineman made it a few feet down a wooden walkway, painfully swinging one leg ahead, then the other.

He wore lower leg braces to keep his ankles from rolling. A friend steadied him on each side. He grimaced as he took each excruciating step, his girlfriend Dani Andersen helping him by making sure his spindly lower legs stayed straight.

A couple of times, his legs gave way, and the two buddies on each side, retired NFL center Bill Lewis and Lions linebacker Rob Frederickson, had to catch him.

But he made it 10 feet or so.

"Whew! I'd rather go through double days than that," he said afterward. "No, it's exhilarating. Seven years is a long time to be sitting in this chair."

His sense of humor, a major ally throughout his struggle, was on display, too. As Utley stood poised for this high drama, a cell phone rang. "Dominos," he said, imitating the guy who answers at the pizza place.

Everyone laughed.

Then it was back to business, as it has been every tough day since that horrifying moment on November 17, 1991, in the Lions' home game against the Rams.

1,000-MILE JOURNEY – Mike Utley, with some help from his friends, prepares to take his first tentative steps. (Reuters)

He knew immediately the injury was serious. Two of his vertebrae had been crushed. As he was carried off the field, he gave the crowd a "thumbs up" gesture.

It's become his trademark, and Utley has come to symbolize grit, determination and optimism in the face of grim odds. He vows to someday walk off the field from the spot he was injured.

He talked of someday walking his mom three blocks from her home to church.

Utley, 33, is paralyzed from the chest and elbows down. His upper arms still are the bulging biceps of a football lineman.

But he has only partial control of his hands and lower arms.

About two years ago, he began to feel some sensations in his legs. He can feel his toes, describing it as the way you'd feel on an extremely cold day.

He began working with biofeedback, trying to identify the connection between his brain and those few alive nerves in his legs. He kept up daily, grueling physical therapy.

"Rehabilitation is a lifestyle," he said. "It's not something you just do."

A major reason for his public display, and the pressure that came with it, on Monday was his desire to raise more money for his Mike Utley Foundation, dedicated to research aimed at finding a cure for spinal cord injuries.

"The one thing you can control is your mind," he said. "I'm not saying everyone will get as far as I've gotten. But they can do something today they didn't do yesterday. Maybe they can wheel themselves around the block, and maybe tomorrow they can do two blocks."

Utley credits his positive attitude for everything he has accomplished.

"It's a good start," he said of his effort. "Is it the finish line? Not even close? Will I continue on? Will I walk again? You betcha."

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